



10¢

DEC.
NO. 39

APPROVED
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COMICS
CODE



AUTHORITY

HOUSE of SECRETS

"ALIEN
BIRD of
PREY!"

GREAT SCOTT!
THE *WOK* IS
FLYING OFF
WITH ELSA!

AND IF I FIRE MY
RAY-GUN AT IT--
SHE'LL FALL TO
HER DEATH!

A
MARK
MERLIN
MYSTERY

TEST YOUR TALENT



CONTEST PRIZE:
**\$495 Scholarship in
Commercial Art**

Draw your choice of any one of these heads. Draw it any size you want (except a size that would look like a tracing). Use pencil. Everyone who enters contest gets a professional estimate of his talent without charge. Winner receives a complete art course—free training in advertising art, magazine illustrating, cartooning, or painting.

Try for this free art course! Students are taught, individually, by professional artists on the staff of world's largest home study art school. Illustrated art textbooks are furnished. Many former students now earn upwards from \$150 a week in art.

Purpose of contest is to uncover hidden talent. Entries for December 1960 contest must be received by December 31. None returned. Amateurs only. Our students not eligible. Winner notified. Mail your drawing today.



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*Please enter my drawing in your
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Name _____
Occupation _____ AGE _____
Address _____ Apt. _____
City _____ Zone _____
County _____ State _____

THROUGH THE CENTURIES, AN INCREDIBLE CURSE HAD BANNED THE PLAYS FROM THE THEATER! THERE WERE THOSE WHO WERE SHOCKED WHEN I DARED TO DEFY THE CURSE... BUT I COULD NOT RESIST PLAYING THE STARRING ROLE IN ONE OF THE...

DRAMAS OF DOOM



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HOUSE OF SECRETS



I TRIED TO ARGUE WITH ROGER WILCOX, BUT DEEP DOWN, I KNEW HE WAS RIGHT...



LARRY, FOR THE LAST TIME-- YOUR THEATER HAS BEEN LOSING MONEY FOR YEARS! WHY DON'T YOU SELL IT TO ME?

SO YOU CAN TEAR IT DOWN AND BUILD ANOTHER HOTEL FOR YOUR CHAIN? I'LL NEVER DO THAT!

IT'S BEEN IN MY FAMILY FOR GENERATIONS! MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER ACTED ON THIS VERY STAGE!

SO WHAT? YOU'RE NOT GETTING ANYWHERE WITH THE PAST! AND THIS THEATER HASN'T HAD A HIT IN YEARS!



JUST THEN, MY FIANCEE BURST IN...



DARLING--I FOUND IT-- THE PLAY THAT'S GOING TO MAKE US A MINT OF MONEY AND MAKE US ALL FAMOUS!

SALLY, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

THIS! IT WAS WRITTEN BACK IN THE YEAR 1360! DID YOU EVER HEAR OF A WRITER NAMED JON TYLER?



WHO HADN'T? EVERY DRAMA SCHOLAR KNEW TYLER'S PLAYS HAD SO SCANDALIZED ENGLAND 600 YEARS AGO, THAT THE KING WAS FORCED TO ACT...



JON TYLER--YOU HAVE RIDICULED THE NOBLE KING EDWARD FOR THE LAST TIME!

I--I SUPPOSE THIS MEANS "THE TOWER" FOR ME?

NO, TYLER-- OUR SOVEREIGN HAS ARRANGED A FATE MORE FITTING FOR YOU!-- LET THE WIZARD THROUGH!

A--A CURSE?





HOUSE OF SECRETS



YES... A CURSE UPON YOUR MONSTROUS PLAYS! HENCEFORTH, WHOEVER APPEARS IN ANY OF YOUR ROLES WILL BE DOOMED TO ENACT THE SAME PART IN REAL LIFE!



THIS IS A REAL FIND, LARRY-- A TYLER PLAY NEVER DONE BEFORE! IT'S TITLED "THE RAVEN MAN"!

SO IT WAS NEVER PRODUCED? NO WONDER! DO YOU REMEMBER THAT LEGEND WHICH DESCRIBES WHAT HAPPENED WHEN OTHER TYLER PLAYS WERE SHOWN?



"IN 1562, THE GREAT ACTOR WHARTON DARED TO DEFEY THE LEGEND BY APPEARING IN THE TITLE ROLE OF 'THE MISCHIEVOUS MOUSE' WHEN THE MOON ROSE THAT FIRST NIGHT..."

WHO IS THE MADMAN WHO SCURRIES UP THE WALL, AS IF HE WERE A REAL RODENT?



"AND, IN 1631, MAURICE MORLEY, ACTING IN TYLER'S 'THE MONSTER ON THE HEATH,' WENT BERSERK AFTER THE PREMIERE..."

THIS IS INCREDIBLE! MORLEY IS BEHAVING JUST AS HE DOES IN THE PLAY!



I'M ALMOST AFRAID TO TAKE THE CHANCE! SUPPOSE I DID PLAY "THE RAVEN MAN," WOULD I BE AFFECTED?

DARLING, THAT'S NONSENSE! AND DEEP DOWN YOU REALLY KNOW IT! ALL THOSE TALES DATE FROM THE DARK AGES!



YOU'RE RIGHT! I'LL DO IT, SWEETHEART! IT'S MY LAST OPPORTUNITY TO SAVE THIS THEATER!

TOO BAD YOU DECIDED NOT TO SELL THE THEATER TO ME, LARRY-- BUT I HOPE YOU MADE THE RIGHT DECISION!





HOUSE OF SECRETS



I LOST NO TIME GOING INTO PRODUCTION! WITH THE LAST OF MY SAVINGS, I HIRED A TOP DESIGNER, MUSICIANS, A SUPERB CAST--AND PLUNGED INTO REHEARSALS...

THAT'S IT--AGE THE WALLS MORE! THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE THE 14TH CENTURY!



BUT AFTER THE FINAL DRESS REHEARSAL...

DARLING, YOU'RE NOT SORRY YOU'RE DOING THE PLAY, ARE YOU?

OF COURSE NOT! I NEVER FELT SO CONFIDENT IN MY LIFE! SAY, WHY THE FROWN? YOU'RE NOT FALLING FOR THAT SUPERSTITIOUS ROT, ARE YOU?



FINALLY, ON OPENING NIGHT...

NICE OF YOU TO SHOW UP, WILCOX!

I WOULDN'T MISS THIS FOR THE WORLD! BY THE WAY, MAY I INTRODUCE SEÑOR RAMEZ, WHO MANAGES ONE OF MY SOUTH AMERICAN HOTELS!



THE MAGIC MOMENT FINALLY ARRIVED! THE THEATER DARKENED! THE CURTAIN ROSE, THEN...

HE'S--HE'S ACTUALLY CHANGING INTO **THE RAVEN MAN**! WHAT AN EFFECT!



IT TAKES ONLY AN INSTANT TO MAKE THE CHANGE...



... AND HOOKED ONTO HIDDEN WIRES, I CAN "FLY"! I CAN SEE THE AUDIENCE! THEY'RE SPELLBOUND!





HOUSE OF SECRETS



I WAS THE HAPPIEST MAN IN THE WORLD WHEN I RETURNED TO MY HOTEL ROOM VERY LATE THAT NIGHT...

THE CRITICS AGREE--IT'S A SMASH HIT! I CAN KEEP THE THEATER... MARRY SALLY!



SLEEP WAS IMPOSSIBLE, BUT FATIGUE FINALLY OVERCAME ME! IT SEEMED I'D JUST DOZED OFF WHEN...

A--A STRANGE FEELING IS COMING OVER ME!



SOME FORCE WAS COMPELLING ME TO DRESS, AND THEN...

GOOD GRIEF! I--I'M CHANGING--JUST AS I DID IN THE PLAY!



A LEAP BROUGHT ME TO THE WINDOW SILL, AND...

I--I'LL BE KILLED!



BUT ANOTHER SHOCK AWAITED ME...

I--I'M FLYING OVER THE CITY! I'M REALLY THE RAVEN MAN NOW!



THOSE PEOPLE BELOW!

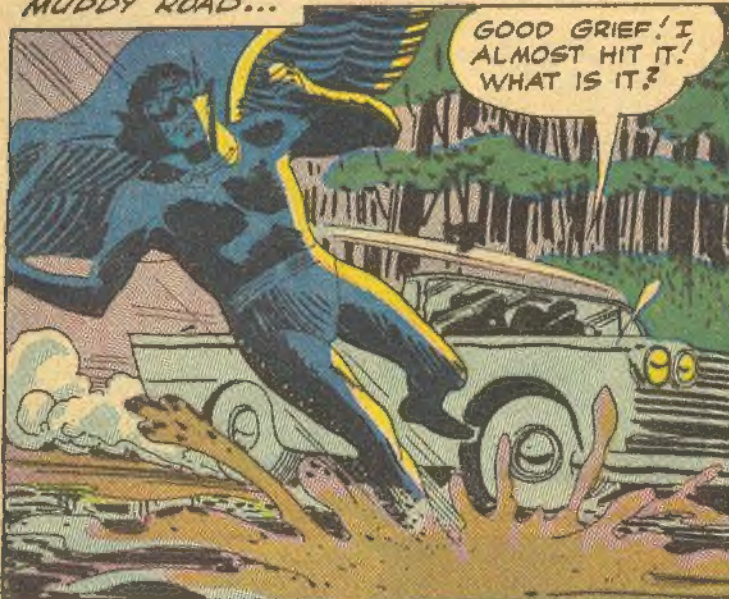




HOUSE OF SECRETS



A SUDDEN RAGE FOR HUMAN BEINGS OVERCAME ME. I SWOOPED DOWN, LANDING ON THE MUDDY ROAD...



GOOD GRIEF! I ALMOST HIT IT! WHAT IS IT?

BEFORE I COULD PURSUE...

DAWN IS ABOUT TO BREAK! I--I MUST RETURN TO MY ROOM BEFORE SUNRISE!



LATER, WHEN I AWOKE, I WAS TERRIBLY TIRED...



WHAT AN AWFUL DREAM! I DIDN'T REALIZE THE PLAY WOULD HAVE SUCH A PROFOUND EFFECT ON ME!

I'D COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN THE NIGHTMARE, BUT WHEN I REACHED THE THEATER...



DID YOU SEE THIS, LARRY? WHAT A COINCIDENCE, ISN'T IT?

OH, NO!

DAILY TIMES
MOTORIST AND WIFE
THREATENED IN PARK
BY RAVEN MAN



I'LL NEVER ACT THAT PART AGAIN, AND I WOULDN'T DARE HIRE ANOTHER ACTOR! I HAVE NO CHOICE-- I MUST CLOSE THE PLAY AT ONCE AND SELL THE THEATER TO WILCOX!

BUT AS I GLANCED DOWN, SOMETHING ABOUT MY SHOES CAUGHT MY ATTENTION! I STARED AT THEM FOR A LONG TIME...





HOUSE OF SECRETS



THAT NIGHT, MINUTES BEFORE CURTAIN TIME...

LARRY--YOU STILL INSIST ON GOING ON AFTER WHAT HAPPENED?

YES, MY DEAR-- I MUST!

LATER, A CLOCK IN THE PALATIAL HOME OF ROGER WILCOX TOLLED 12 WHEN...

WATKINS--DID YOU HEAR A SOUND OUTSIDE ON THE TERRACE?

YES, SIR! IT DID SOUND CURIOUS! I'LL HAVE A LOOK--!



THE-- THE RAVEN MAN!



BUT--BUT THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE! IT WAS A HOAX--YOU HEAR, A HOAX! I KNOW-- BECAUSE I PLANNED IT MYSELF!

THAT'S JUST WHAT I WANTED YOU TO SAY! I SUSPECTED YOU-- BECAUSE YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO STOOD TO GAIN IF I CLOSED THE PLAY!

BUT HOW DID HE DO IT, MR. PHILLIPS?

"HIS SOUTH AMERICAN 'HOTEL MANAGER' MOST LIKELY WAS AN EXPERT IN RARE JUNGLE HERBS! THAT NIGHT, HE MANAGED TO GET INTO MY ROOM..."

"AND AS HIS GENTLE BUT PERSUASIVE VOICE PENETRATED MY SUB-CONSCIOUS TO ENTER MY DREAMS..."



AS HE INHALES THE FUMES, HE WILL FALL INTO A DEEP SLEEP...

LARRY PHILLIPS...YOU ARE NOW CHANGING INTO THE--THE RAVEN MAN!





Your Passport to AMAZING ADVENTURES!

HOUSE of MYSTERY

INVASION FROM THE DOOMED DIMENSION!

GREAT SCOTT! WEIRD PEOPLE CHASED OUT OF OUR EXPERIMENTAL CAPSULE!

YES, YOUR GIRL ASSISTANT HAS OPENED THE DOORWAY TO YOUR DIMENSION!

DC NATIONAL COMICS

MYSTERY IN SPACE

GO TO HELL BEING TOUCHED BY THAT RADIOACTIVE MONSTER! WE'LL GET HIM AGAIN TOO!

ON SALE EVERYWHERE!

ADAM STRANGE... SON OF THE WORLD'S... FIGHTS A DESPERATE BATTLE WITH... THE RADIATION MONSTER!

TALES OF THE UNEXPECTED

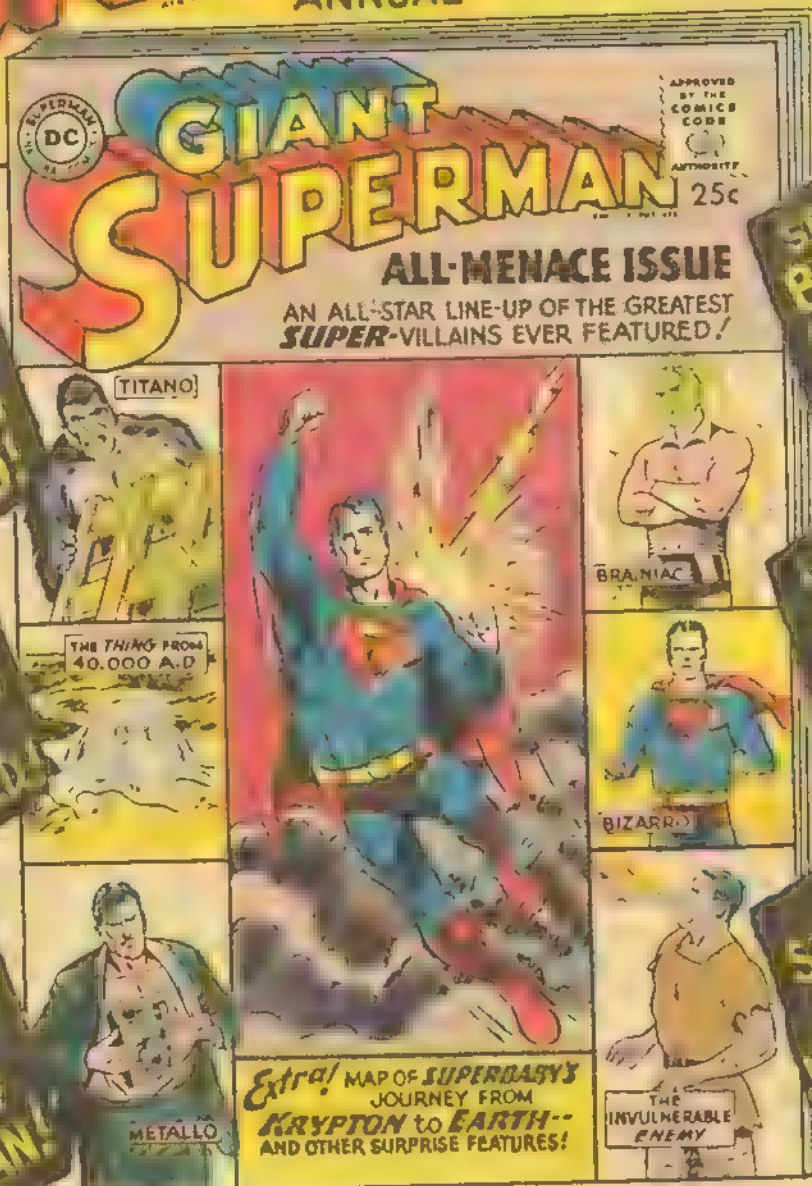
IT'S MYRA--STORMING THAT VOLTA-RAY GUN AT ME! SOMEHOW SHE'S ACQUIRED SUPER POWERS!

"SPACE RANGERS" SUPER GIRL FRIENDS!

TODAY'S MOST ELECTRIFYING MAGAZINES!

The **NEXT GIANT** **SUPERMAN** ANNUAL

WILL BE ANOTHER **SELL-OUT!** DON'T BE LEFT OUT. TO RESERVE YOUR COPY, FILL OUT THE ORDER BLANK BELOW AND RUSH TO YOUR LOCAL DEALER!



SEE
SUPERMAN'S
FIRST
BATTLE WITH
TITANO!

MEET
THE
THING
FROM
40,000 A.D.

WATCH
METALLO
PLOT TO
DESTROY
SUPERMAN!

SEE HOW
BRAINAC
SHRUNK THE
CITY OF
KANDOR!

LEARN THE
AMAZING
ORIGIN OF
THE **FIRST**
BIZARRO!

SEE
SUPERMAN
DUEL THE
INVULNERABLE
ENEMY!



ON SALE EVERYWHERE ...
NOVEMBER 10th!

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PLEASE RESERVE MY COPY OF DC'S *GIANT SUPERMAN "ALL-MENACE ISSUE"*. I WILL PAY 25¢ UPON RECEIPT OF THE MAGAZINE.

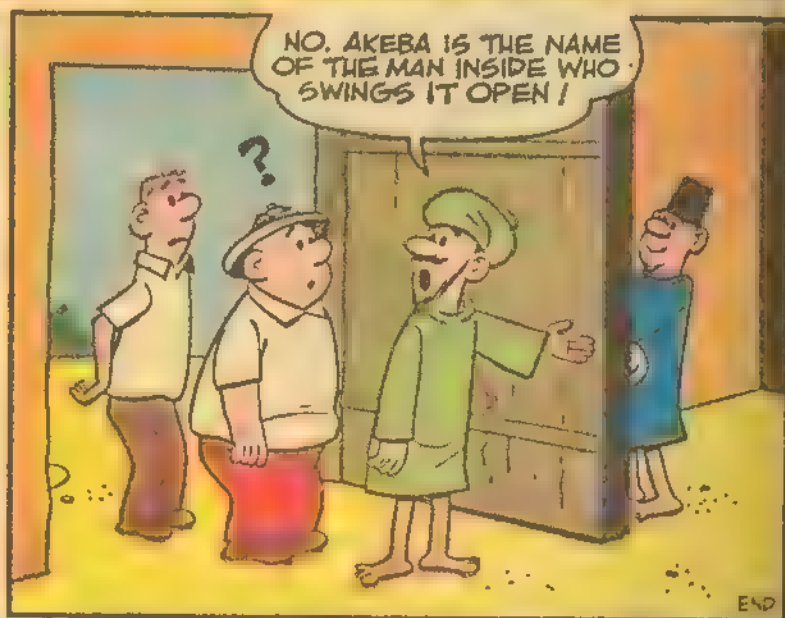
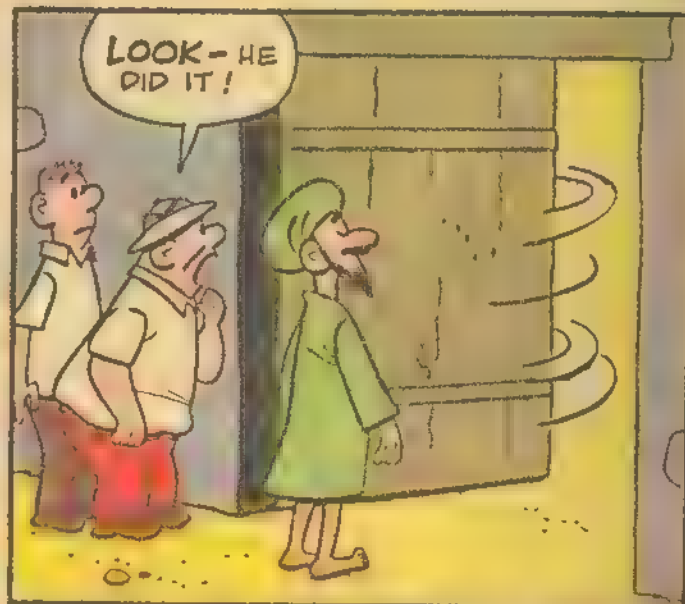
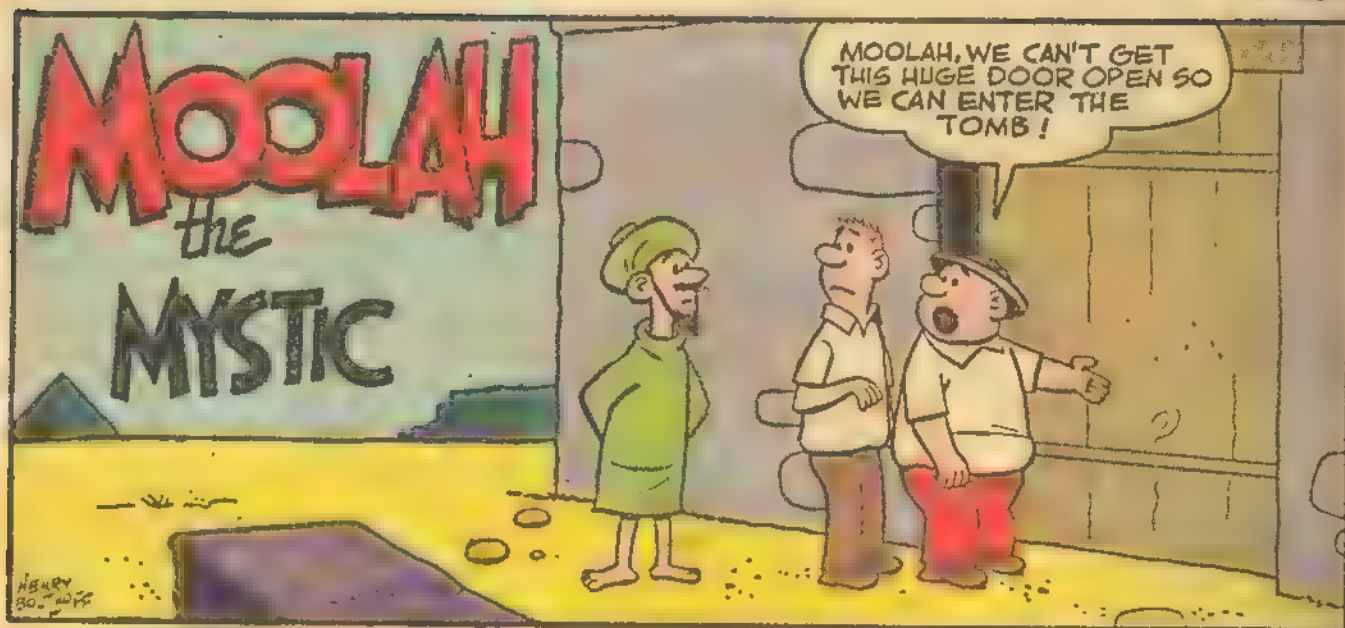
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HOUSE OF SECRETS





THE PRIZE WAS A FANTASTIC FORTUNE WORTH MILLIONS...
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE LURKING DANGERS
AND SUDDEN DEATH THAT BARRED
THE WAY? A FOOLISH QUESTION
TO ASK OF ONE WHO POSSESSED
THE POWERS GIVEN HIM BY...

the FABULOUS EYE OF FEYOL





HOUSE OF SECRETS



ON ALL SIDES, TROPICAL BEASTS UTTER PIERCING CRIES OF WARNING--BUT THE STRANGER PAYS THEM NO HEED AS HE PLODS THROUGH THE DENSE BRAZILIAN JUNGLE.



IT MUST BE NEARBY...I KNOW I'M GETTING CLOSE!

SUDDENLY, HIS FEET THRASH THE AIR, AS...

EH--? I STUMBED INTO A PIT!



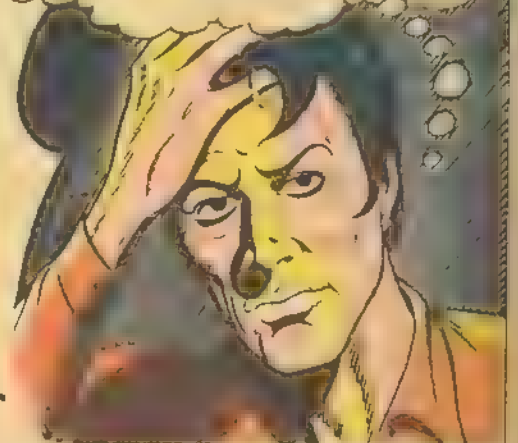
DOWN HURTLES THE FIGURE INTO...



WHACK

LATER, AS HE REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS...

I--I CAN'T SEEM TO REMEMBER WHO I AM...OR WHAT I'M DOING HERE! THE BUMP ON MY HEAD MUST'VE GIVEN ME AMNESIA!

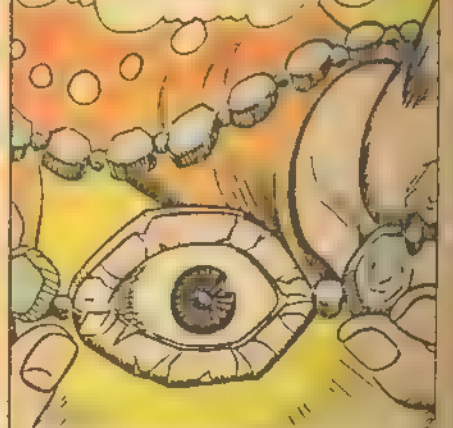


JUST THEN, HIS FINGERS CLOSE ON A STRANGE OBJECT LYING ALONGSIDE HIM...

AN ANCIENT BRACELET CHARM IN THE FORM OF AN EYE... AND THERE'S A LEGEND ENGRAVED ON THE BACK!



"VAST POWERS WILL BELONG TO THE ONE WHO WEARS THE EYE OF FEVOS!" IT'S A SORCERER'S CHARM! PROBABLY A FAKE-- BUT WHAT CAN I LOSE? I'LL PUT IT ON.





HOUSE OF SECRETS



THERE!... NOW
LET'S SEE IF I
HAVE SOME
SECRET POWER
TO GET ME
OUT OF HERE!

INSTANTLY, TO THE MAN'S AMAZEMENT...



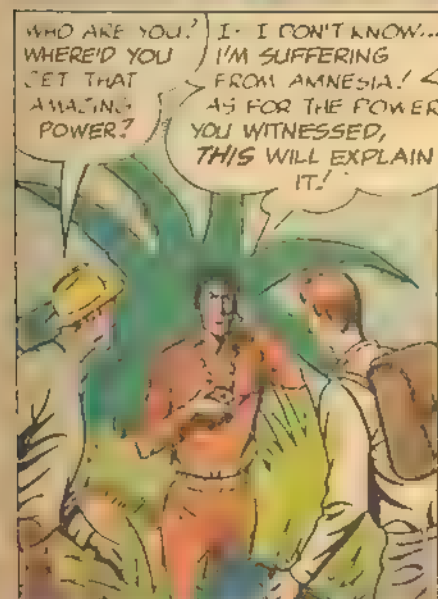
GREAT THUNDER!
I---I'M STRETCHING
MY BODY ALL THE
WAY TO THE
TOP!



AND JUST AS HE EMERGES...

GREAT GORILLAS,
FALSTROM! D-DID
YOU SEE THAT?

IMPOSSIBLE.
L-LET'S GO TAKE
A CLOSER
LOOK!



WHO ARE YOU?
WHERE'D YOU
GET THAT
AMAZING
POWER?

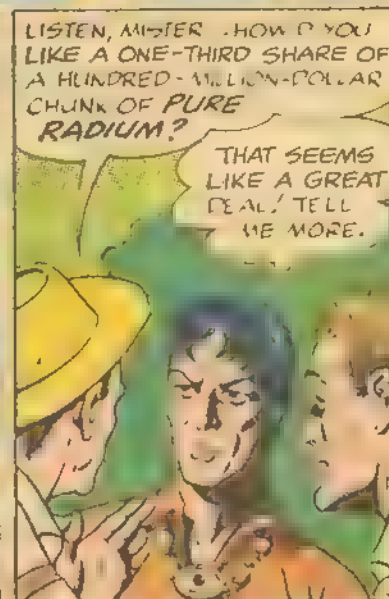
I: I DON'T KNOW...
I'M SUFFERING
FROM AMNESIA!
AS FOR THE POWER
YOU WITNESSED,
THIS WILL EXPLAIN
IT!



MOMENTS LATER...

INCREDIBLE.
FALSTROM--ARE
YOU THINKING
WHAT I'M
THINKING?

THAT THIS
CHAP AND HIS
POWERS MAY
BE THE
ANSWER TO
OUR PROBLEM?...
YOU SAID IT!

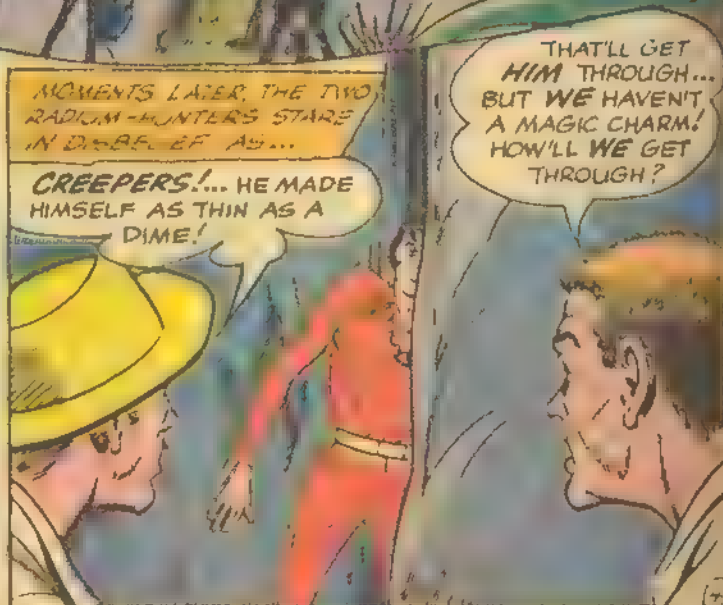
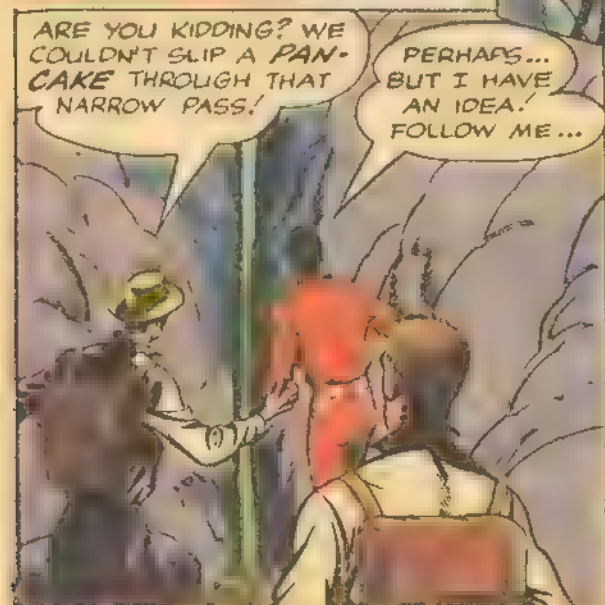
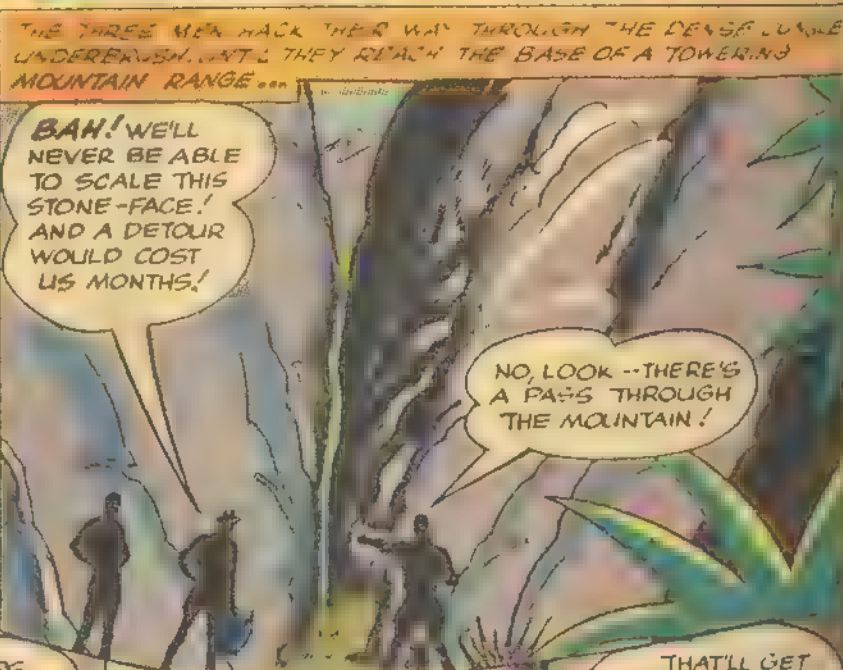
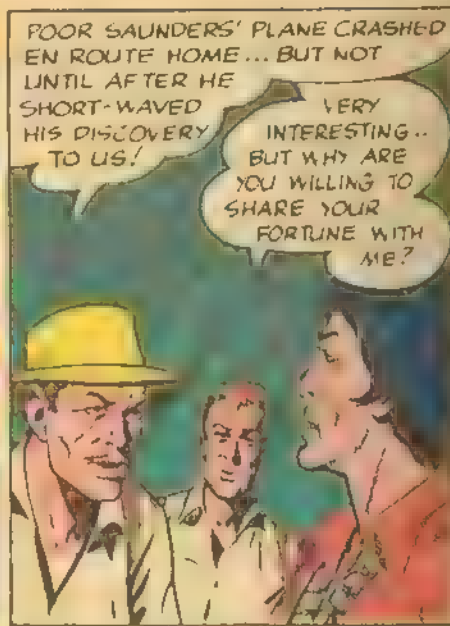


LISTEN, MISTER... HOW'D YOU
LIKE A ONE-THIRD SHARE OF
A HUNDRED-MILLION-DOLLAR
CHUNK OF PURE
RADIUM?

THAT SEEMS
LIKE A GREAT
DEAL! TELL
ME MORE.



HOUSE OF SECRETS





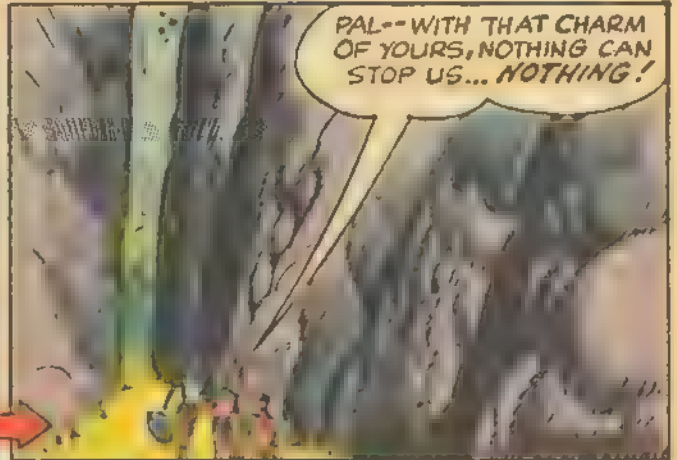
HOUSE OF SECRETS



THE AMAZING ANSWER COMES AN INSTANT
LATER, AS...



I--I CAN'T
BELIEVE MY
EYES! AS HE
RETURNS TO
NORMAL SIZE,
H-HE'S WIDENING
THE PASS! COME
ON, GREAVES!



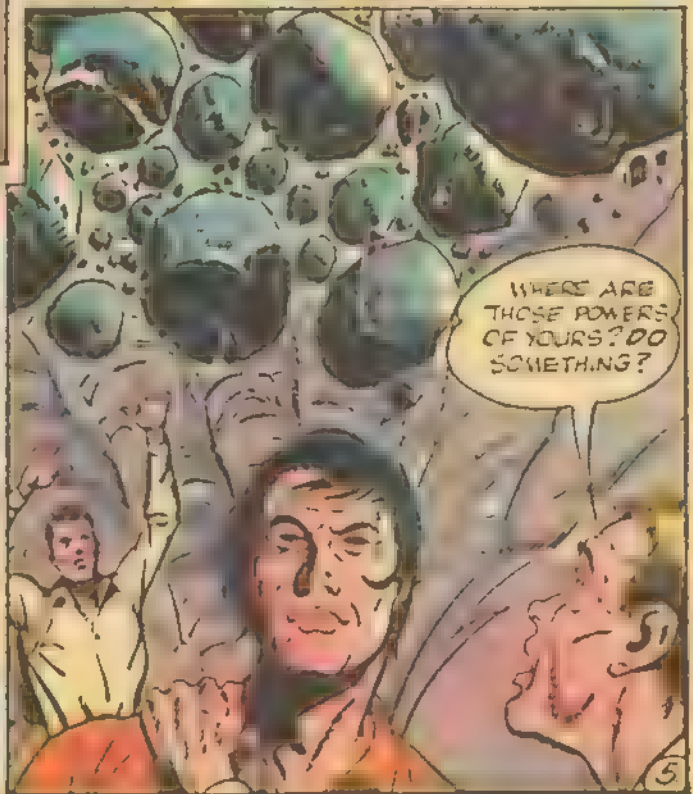
PAL--WITH THAT CHARM
OF YOURS, NOTHING CAN
STOP US... NOTHING!



HOLD IT! THAT
JARRING YOU
GAVE THE MOUNTAIN
LOOSENED SOME BIG
BOULDERS ON TOP!



THERE'S TONS
OF 'EM
COMING DOWN!
WE'LL NEVER
GET OUT OF IT
ALIVE!



WHERE ARE
THOSE POWERS
OF YOURS? DO
SOMETHING?



HOUSE OF SECRETS



THE STRANGER CONCENTRATES HIS GAZE UPWARDS-- AND NEXT MOMENT...



JUMPING JEHOSEPHAT... HE'S SENT UP AN **UMBRELLA OF LIGHT** FROM HIS EYES-- AND THE BOULDERS ARE **BOUNCING OFF IT!**

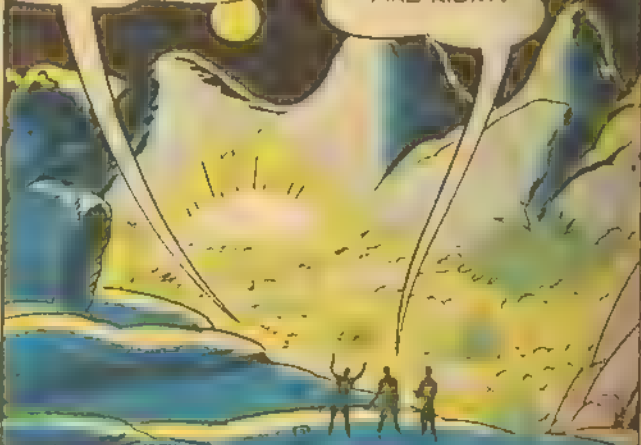
NICE GOING, PAL!... AND NOW, ACCORDING TO OUR DIRECTIONS, THE VALLEY IS ONLY ABOUT HALF A MILE BEYOND! LET'S GO!...



IT IS NIGHTTIME WHEN THE FORTUNE HUNTERS FINALLY COME TO AN ABRUPT HALT...

"HA, HA... WHAT A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES! A HUNDRED MILLION IN RADIUM-- AND IT'S ALL OURS!"

SURE... BUT WE'D BETTER CAMP HERE FOR THE NIGHT, AND START OUT IN THE MORNING! THOSE TRAILS INTO THE VALLEY ARE RISKY!



BUT JUST BEFORE DAWN...

IF I HAD THAT MAGIC CHARM-- I'D BE ABLE TO KEEP THAT FORTUNE MYSELF! "HA, HA," I'D BE THE RICHEST-- AND MOST POWERFUL-- MAN ON EARTH!



THAT BUMP I GAVE HIM ON THE HEAD WILL KEEP HIM QUIET A LONG TIME... AND THE CHARM IS MINE!



DONNING PROTECTIVE GARB, GREAVES DESCENDS TO THE VALLEY-- AND SOON...

THE RADIUM'S IN THE CONTAINER... NOW TO HEAD BACK TO CIVILIZATION! IF ANYONE TRIES TO STOP ME, I'LL GIVE 'EM A TASTE OF SOME FANTASTIC POWERS!





HOUSE OF SECRETS



BUT, AS GREAVES STARTS OUT OF THE VALLEY...



HOSTILE NATIVES!
WITH POISON BLOWGUNS!
NOW TO PUT THE EYE
OF FEVOS TO WORK...

BUT WHEN HE TRIES TO SUMMON UP HIS POWERS...



N-NOTHING'S HAPPENING!
WHY ISN'T THE CHARM
WORKING FOR ME?

AT THE SAME TIME...



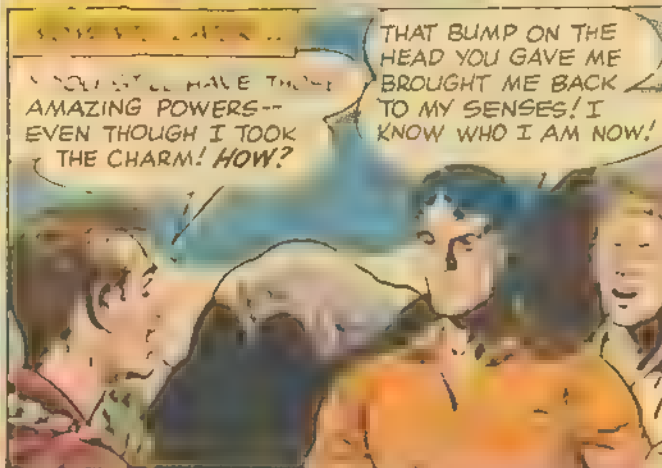
LOOK!...THERE'S
GREAVES NOW!
HE'LL NEVER
ESCAPE THOSE
NATIVES ALIVE!

I BELIEVE
I CAN HELP
HIM!



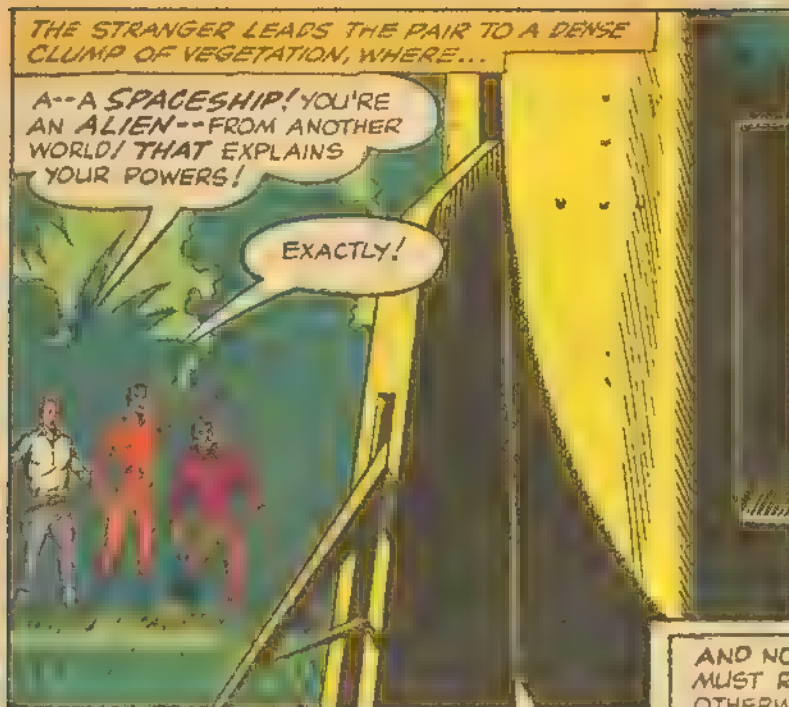
AAEEEE...

RUN ACROSS
THE LIGHT
BEAM, GREAVES!
IT IS SAFE!



THAT BUMP ON THE
HEAD YOU GAVE ME
BROUGHT ME BACK
TO MY SENSES! I
KNOW WHO I AM NOW!

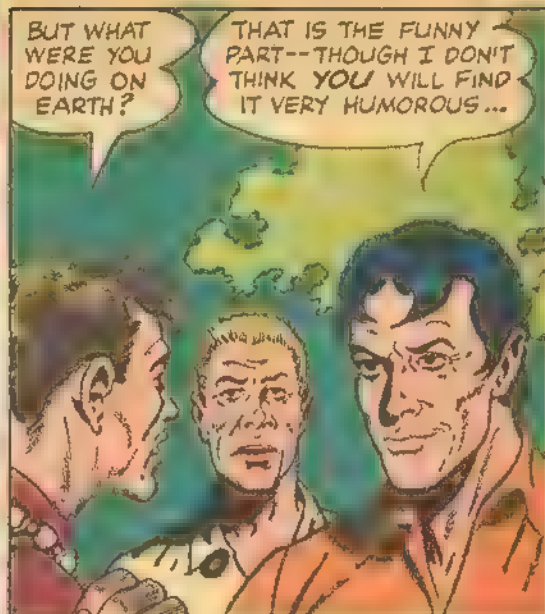
THAT BUMP ON THE
HEAD YOU GAVE ME
BROUGHT ME BACK
TO MY SENSES! I
KNOW WHO I AM NOW!



THE STRANGER LEADS THE PAIR TO A DENSE CLUMP OF VEGETATION, WHERE...

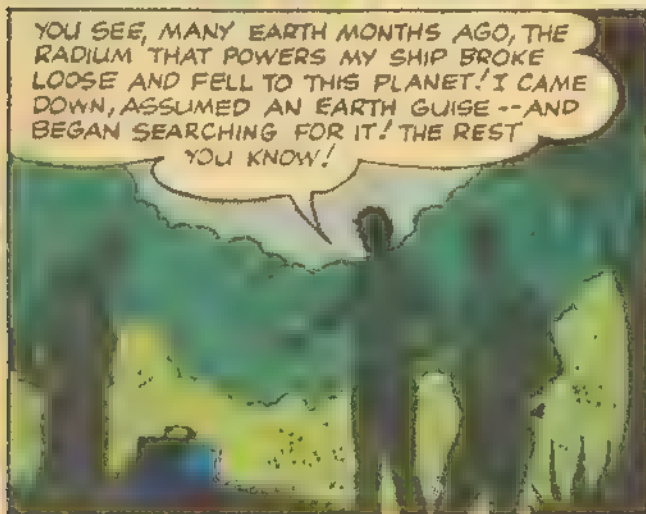
A--A SPACESHIP! YOU'RE AN ALIEN--FROM ANOTHER WORLD! THAT EXPLAINS YOUR POWERS!

EXACTLY!

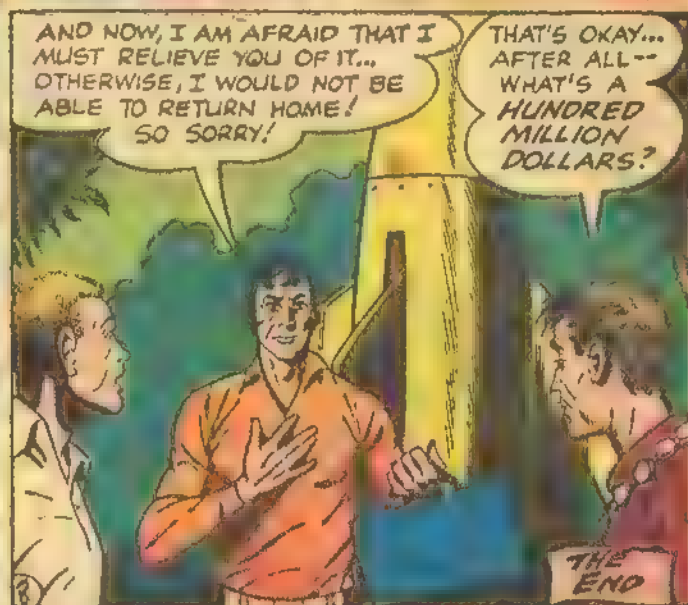


BUT WHAT WERE YOU DOING ON EARTH?

THAT IS THE FUNNY PART--THOUGH I DON'T THINK YOU WILL FIND IT VERY HUMOROUS...



YOU SEE, MANY EARTH MONTHS AGO, THE RADIUM THAT POWERS MY SHIP BROKE LOOSE AND FELL TO THIS PLANET! I CAME DOWN, ASSUMED AN EARTH GUISE --AND BEGAN SEARCHING FOR IT! THE REST YOU KNOW!



AND NOW, I AM AFRAID THAT I MUST RELIEVE YOU OF IT... OTHERWISE, I WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO RETURN HOME! SO SORRY!

THAT'S OKAY... AFTER ALL-- WHAT'S A HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS?

THE END

MECHANICAL MONSTERS ON THE LOOSE!



THE ANSWER LAY MILES BENEATH THE SURFACE--AND ONLY **Cave Carson** AND THE **MIGHTY MOLE** VEHICLE DARED TO BRAVE THE UNKNOWN PERILS OF THE EARTH BELOW TO THWART THE EVIL MENACE ABOVE!

WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?
WHO WAS CONTROLLING THEM?

READ THIS THRILLING ADVENTURE

INSIDE EARTH

ON SALE EVERYWHERE OCT. 27th!



FLIGHT TO NOWHERE

MAYHEW stared for some time at the strange sheet of paper he'd extracted from the bottle that had been washed ashore. He'd never seen writing like that, but it occurred to him, after awhile, that Prof. Sanders, who was a scholar of sorts, might be able to decipher it. He walked rapidly in the direction of the oceanographic laboratory.

Prof. Sanders tried several codes but finally gave up. "It's a message of some sort," he agreed, "but for the life of me, I can't get an inkling to what it says. Give it up, young man. It's the joke of a prankster or a crank."

Mayhew turned away, bristling with indignation. How would that old fool know, to hazard a guess like that? He'd been the supervisor of the lab so long, his mind must've been affected by the salty air! Wait until he himself would be put in charge! There'd be some changes made! And who but Mayhew was more entitled to be given that opportunity! The last survey made of the sound's currents was back in 1930, so long ago, it was virtually useless. So hadn't he himself introduced a new system, which led to the theory that winds played a more vital part in determining surface currents?

For more than a year, Mayhew had tossed several bottles into the sound. Each contained a postal card and printed instructions for the finder to jot down the precise time and place where the bottle was discovered. More than 300 cards had been returned, serving as the basis of Mayhew's study.

Mayhew stared out at the vast expanse of water tipping the horizon. Somewhere out there lay the mystery, and its solution, he knew, was within his grasp. "The message is in some ancient, forgotten language," he reflected, concentrating heavily, "and judging by the drift of the ocean, the bottle came from the east. Why didn't the finder send back the post card? Was it because he didn't understand such a modern means of communication? That must be it!"

He had to have proof. He had to prove to Prof. Sanders that it hadn't been returned in jest, but was, in fact, a genuine gesture. Argument was futile. When Mayhew broached his suggestion of flying across the Atlantic in search of his mysterious communicant, Prof. Sanders viewed the project with dismay. Mayhew scoffed at his objections. "I know why you don't approve. It's because you're afraid I'll be successful. And I will, I promise you. I'll bring back proof, which will automatically put me in the spot to replace you here!"

"You're a fool, my boy," said Prof. Sanders. "One day you will be chief of this lab, but your impatience is driving all reason from you."

Mayhew spent the rest of that week selling everything he owned to raise the cash for the purchase of an airplane. His previous experience as a pilot qualified him to fly the ship. He refused to shake hands with Prof. Sanders, scorning such hypocrisy, as he moved to take off. Minutes later, the plane roared down the runway and streaked skyward. Prof. Sanders watched it until it vanished but he could not erase from his mind the maniacal look on Mayhew's face.

Mayhew shot across the Atlantic Ocean, ignoring hunger, thirst and sleep, the bottle and its message poised on the instrument panel like a bold challenge. Proof was what he sought, and proof he'd find. He hovered above the Canary Islands, and the Azores. Far to the west, he saw the ocean funnel through the Strait of Gibraltar into the Mediterranean. Somewhere down there lay the key to the riddle . . . some land detached from civilization long, long ago.

And then, suddenly, the sickening realization overcame him. He could never bring back proof . . . because the bottle had been dispatched from an island that had sunk into the ocean, the island known as Atlantis.



A
**MARK
MERLIN**
MYSTERY

IN ONE MOMENT, IT
WAS A FRIENDLY,
PLAYFUL PET... IN
THE NEXT MOMENT,
IT BECAME A
DESTRUCTIVE
CREATURE! THUS
DID MARK MERLIN
FACE HIS MOST
PERILOUS CHALLENGE,
WHEN HE TRIED TO
HALT THE RAMPAGE
OF...

GREAT THUNDER!
THE **WOK BIRD** IS
FLAPPING ITS WINGS
WITH SUCH POWER,
IT'S **REPELLING**
OUR **BULLETS!**

CRACK

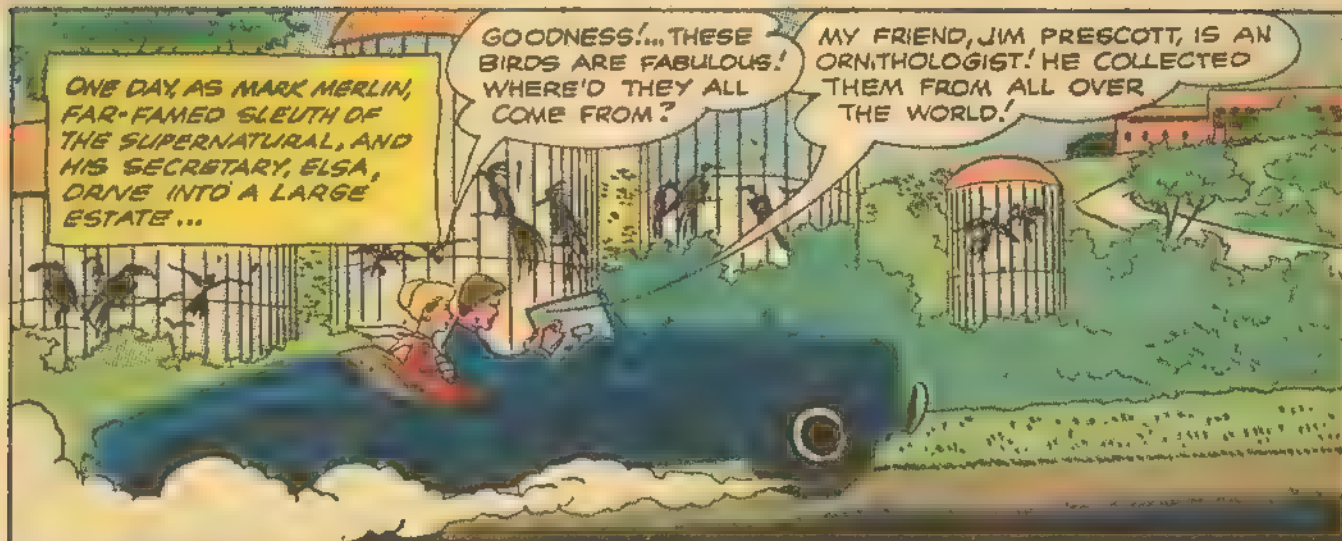
CRACK

the
**ALIEN
BIRD**
of
PREY





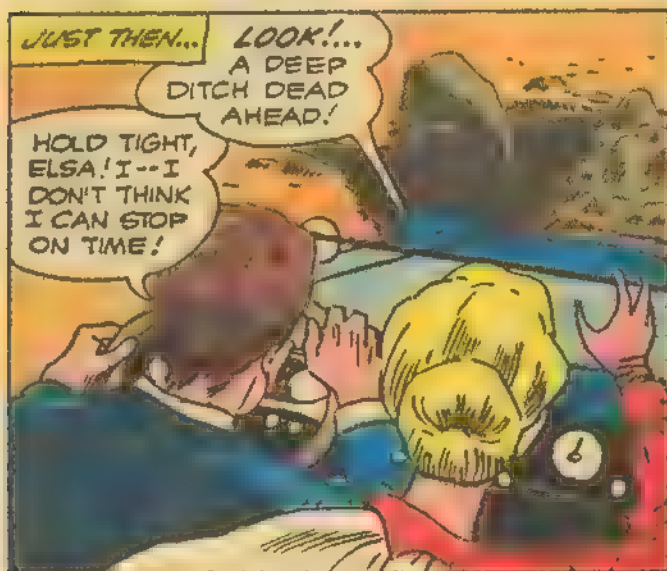
HOUSE OF SECRETS



ONE DAY, AS MARK MERLIN, FAR-FAMED SLEUTH OF THE SUPERNATURAL, AND HIS SECRETARY, ELSA, DROVE INTO A LARGE ESTATE...

GOODNESS!...THESE BIRDS ARE FABULOUS! WHERE'D THEY ALL COME FROM?

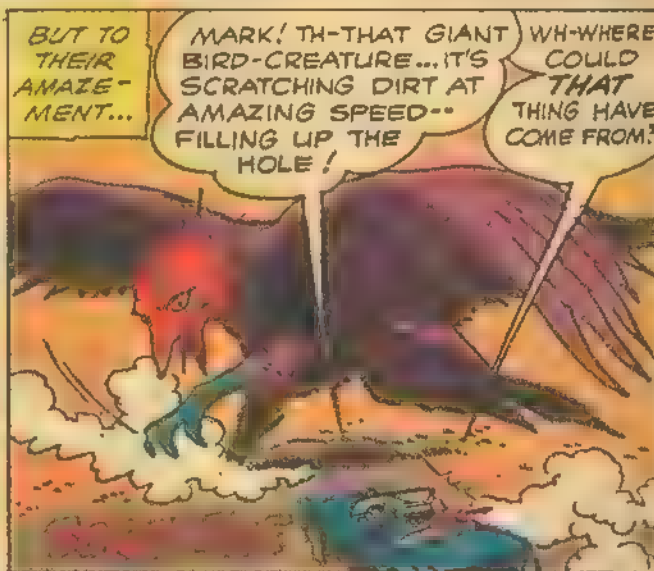
MY FRIEND, JIM PRESCOTT, IS AN ORNITHOLOGIST! HE COLLECTED THEM FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD!



JUST THEN...

LOOK!... A DEEP DITCH DEAD AHEAD!

HOLD TIGHT, ELSA! I--I DON'T THINK I CAN STOP ON TIME!



BUT TO THEIR AMAZE-MENT...

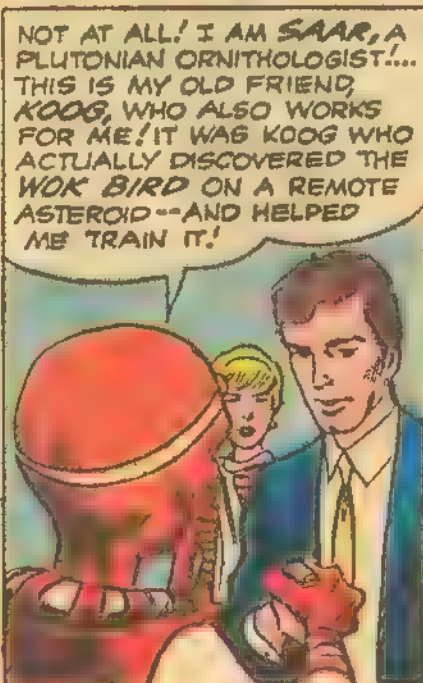
MARK! TH-THAT GIANT BIRD-CREATURE...IT'S SCRATCHING DIRT AT AMAZING SPEED-- FILLING UP THE HOLE!

WH-WHERE COULD THAT THING HAVE COME FROM?



MY FRIEND FROM PLUTO CAN EXPLAIN, MARK! I PURPOSELY INVITED YOU HERE TO MEET HIM!

JIM! IS THIS SOME KIND OF A JOKE?



NOT AT ALL! I AM SAAR, A PLUTONIAN ORNITHOLOGIST!... THIS IS MY OLD FRIEND, KOOG, WHO ALSO WORKS FOR ME! IT WAS KOOG WHO ACTUALLY DISCOVERED THE WOK BIRD ON A REMOTE ASTEROID--AND HELPED ME TRAIN IT!

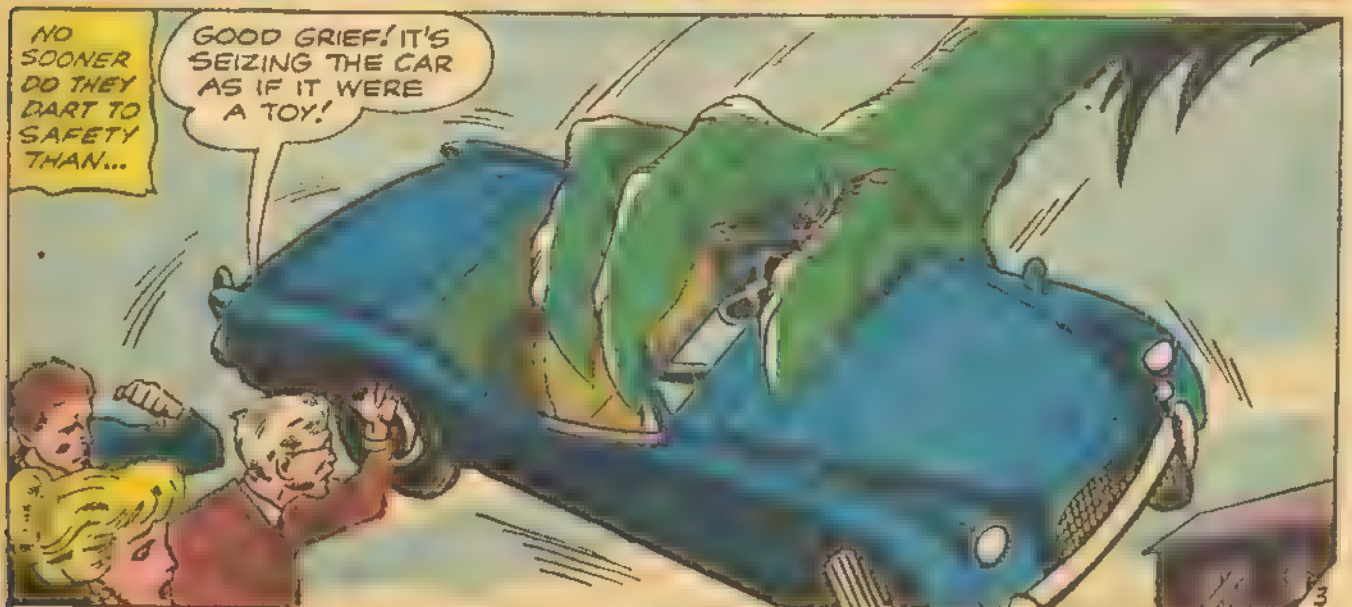
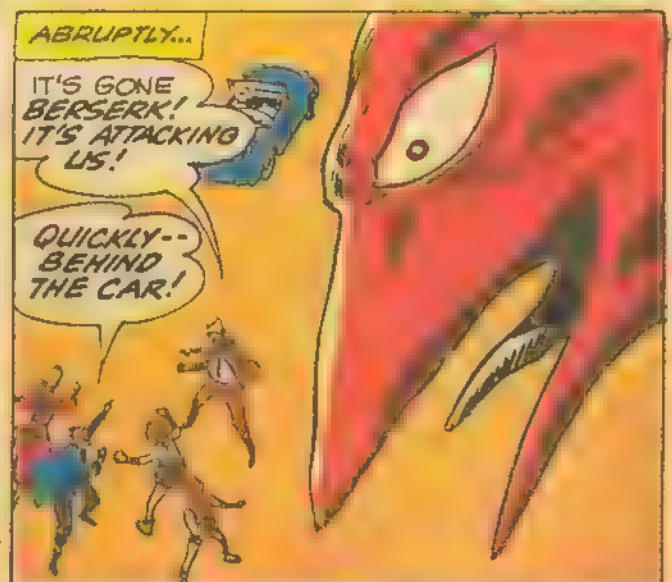
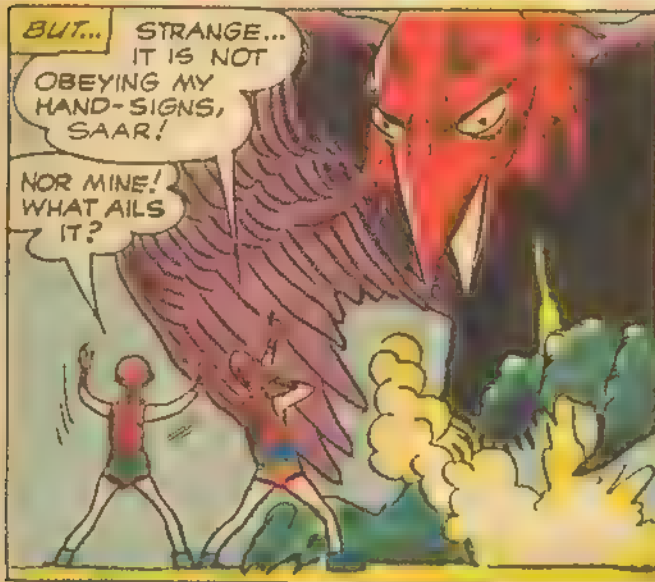


WE WERE FORCED TO LAND NEAR THIS FINE AVIARY TO RE-CHARGE OUR SPACESHIP BATTERIES--AND I DECIDED TO SHOW OFF TO PRESCOTT A REALLY RARE BIRD!

ISN'T THIS, AMAZING, MARK? HERE WE ARE LISTENING TO ALIENS WHO TALK TO US THROUGH THOUGHT TRANSLATORS!

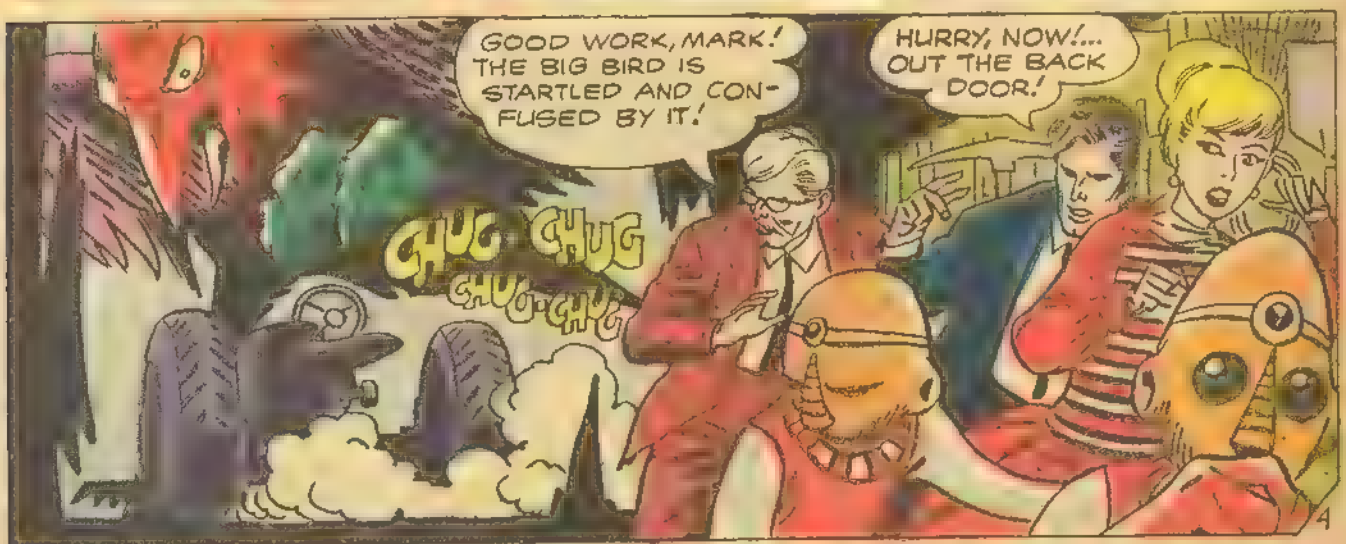
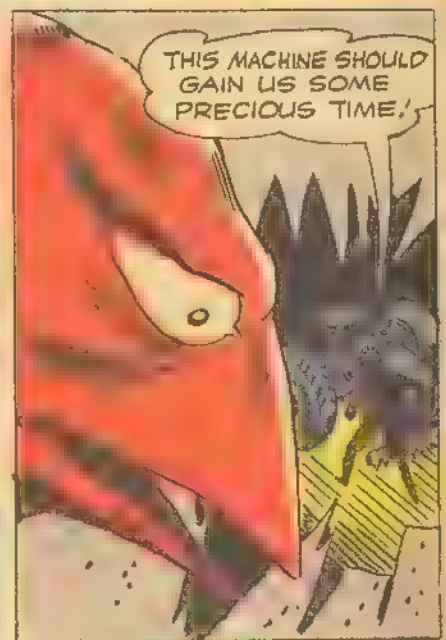
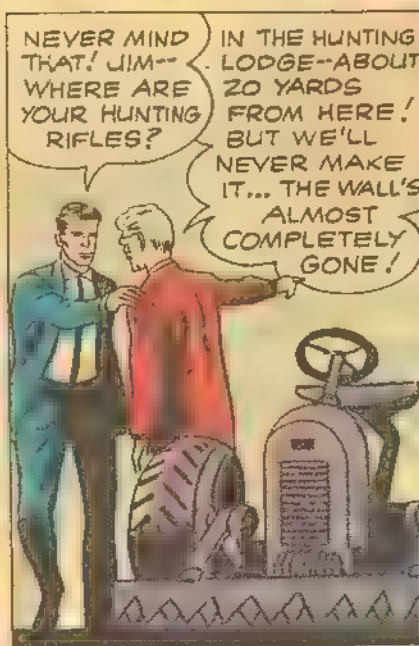
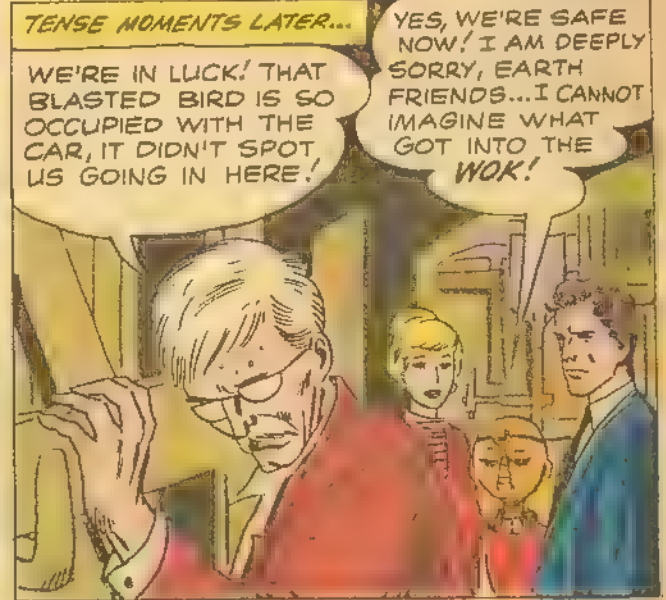
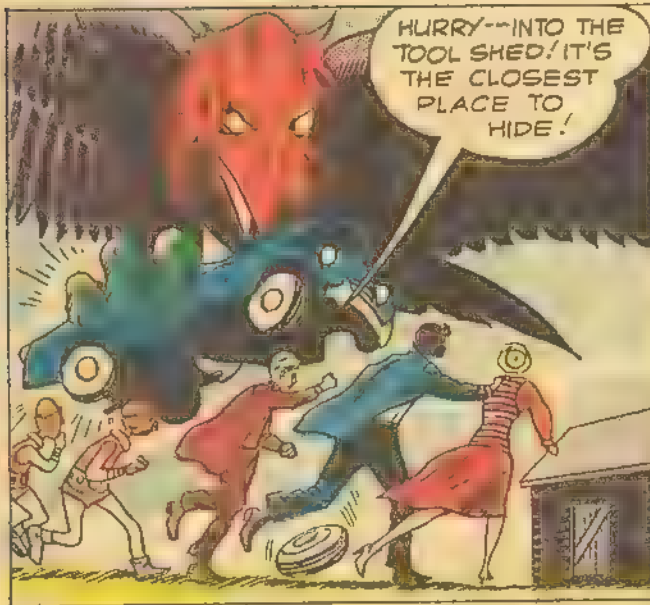


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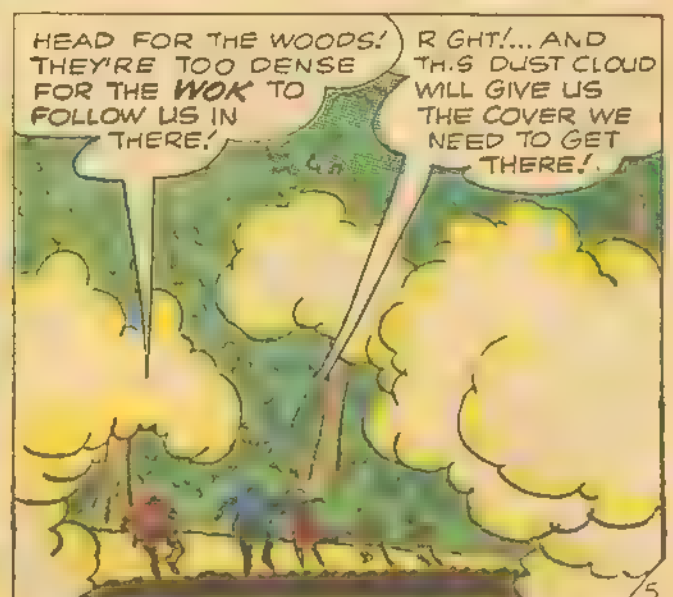
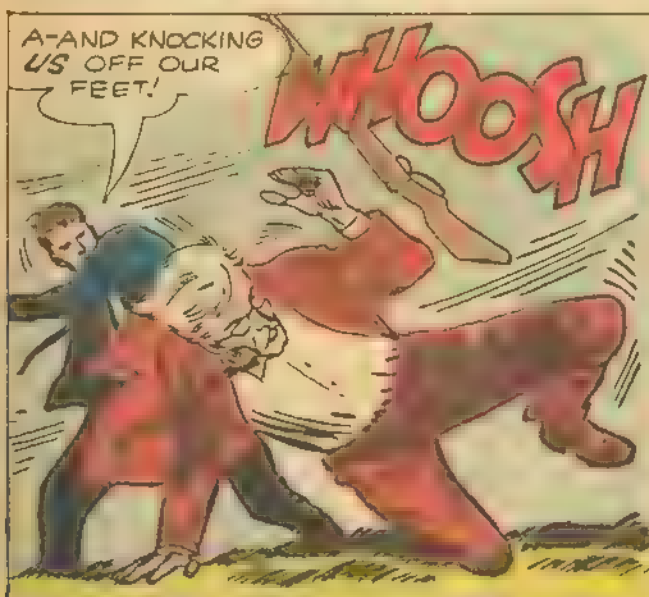
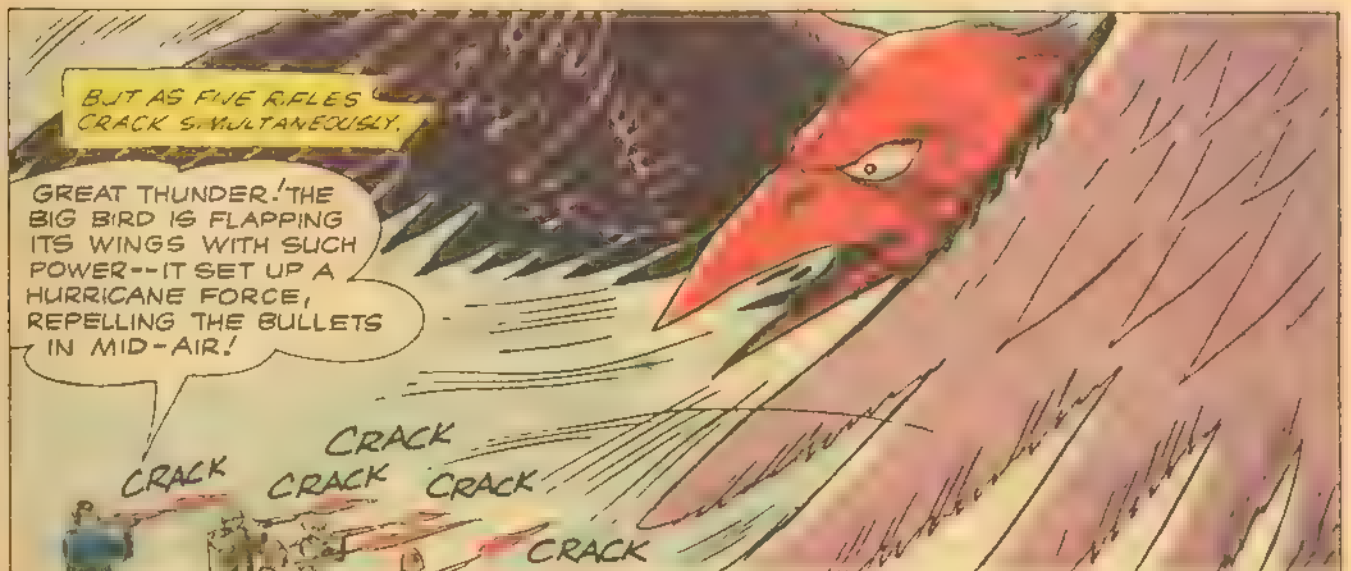
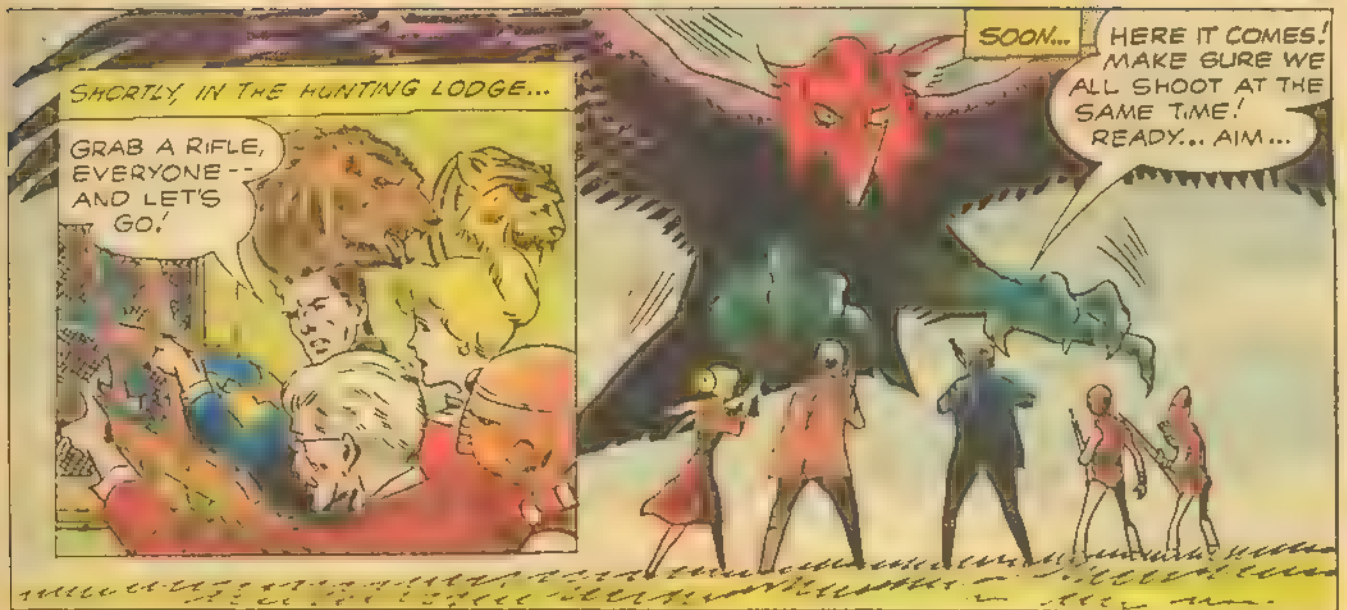


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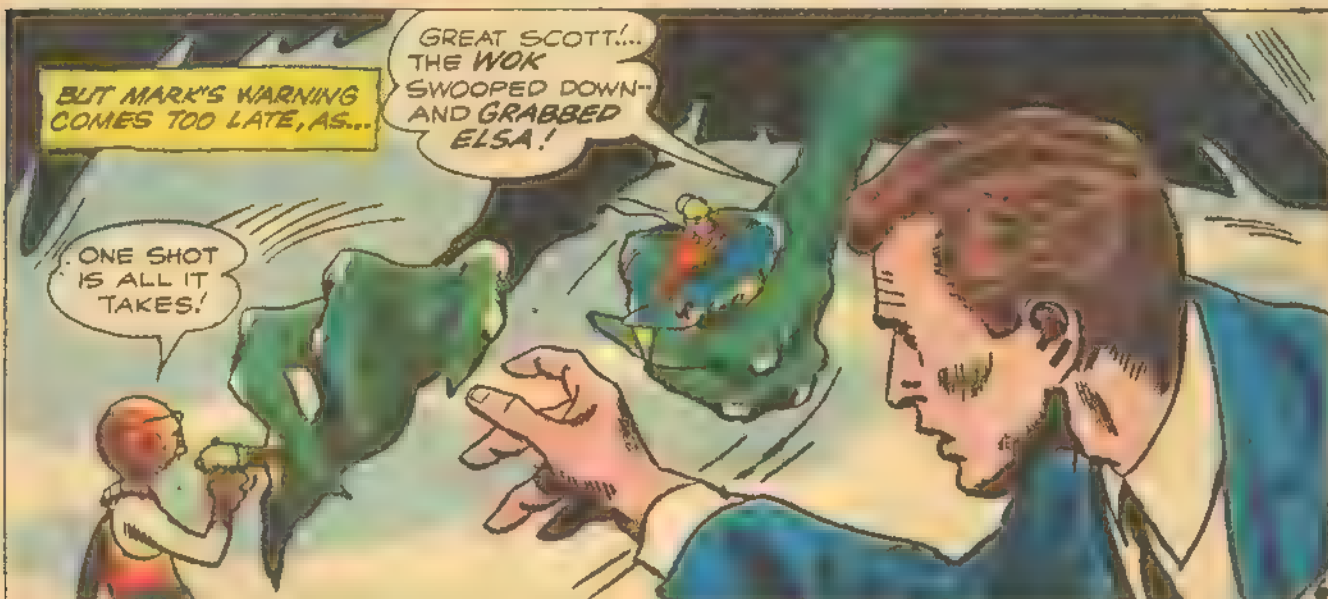
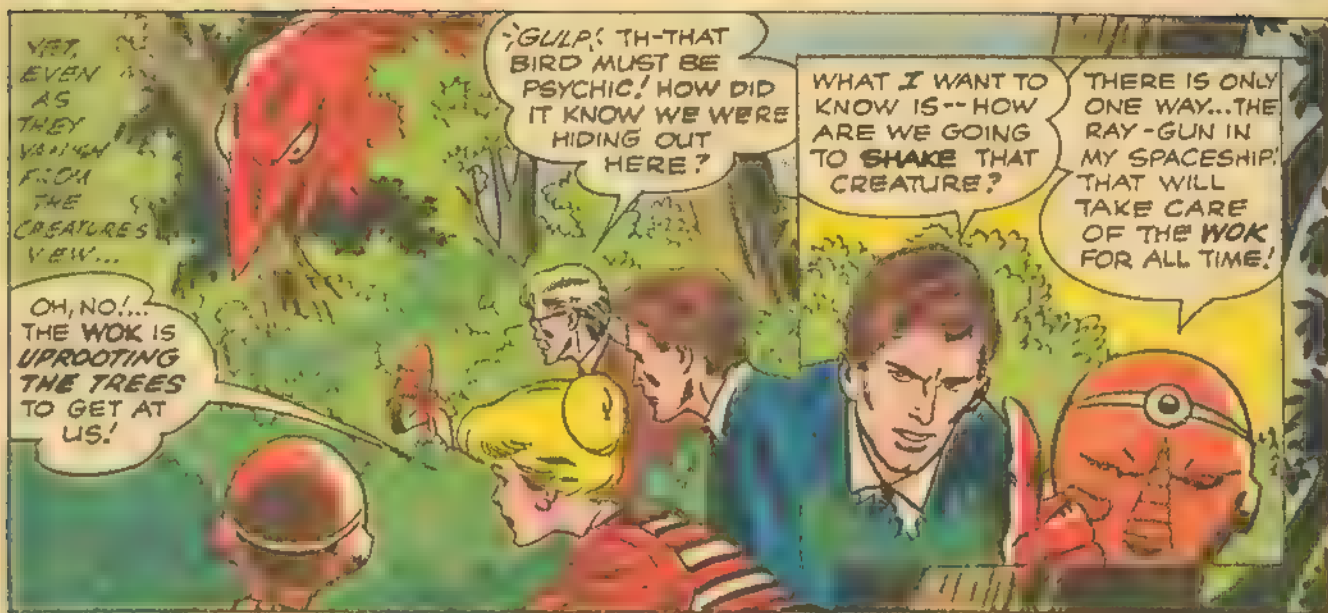


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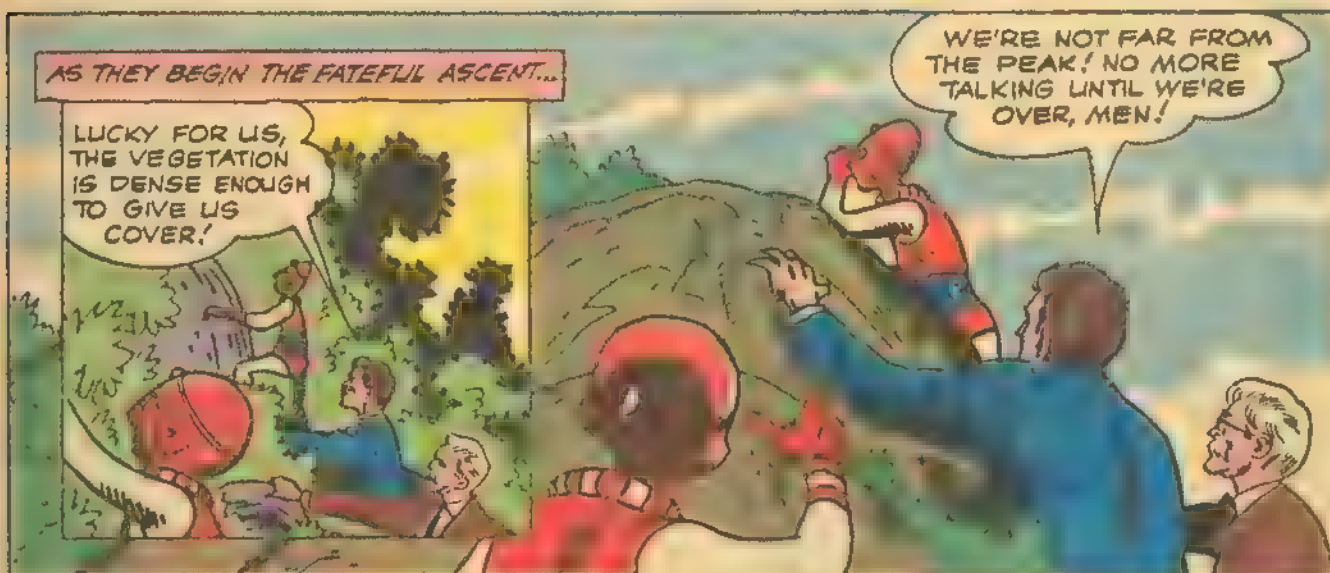
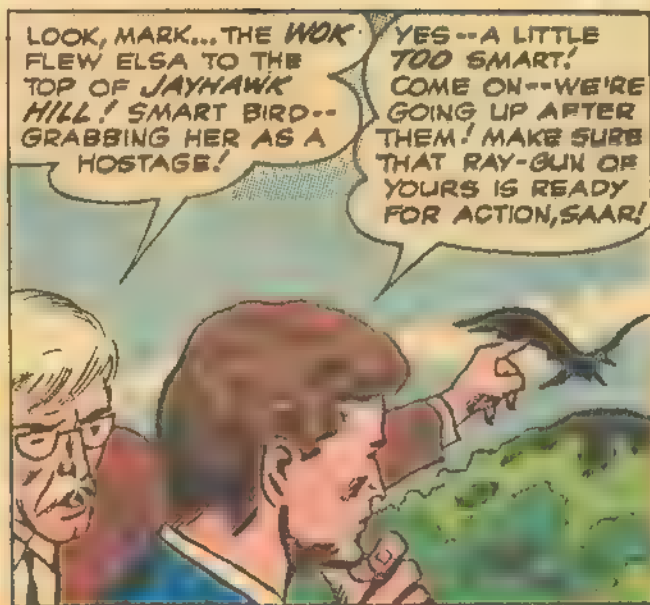
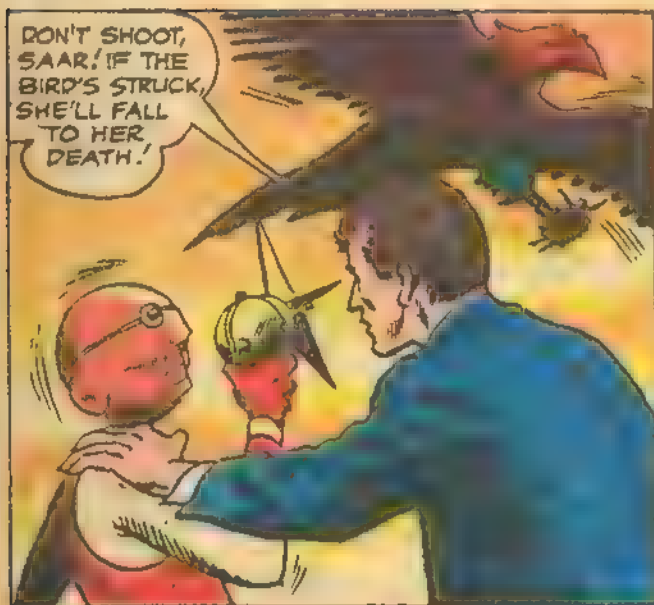


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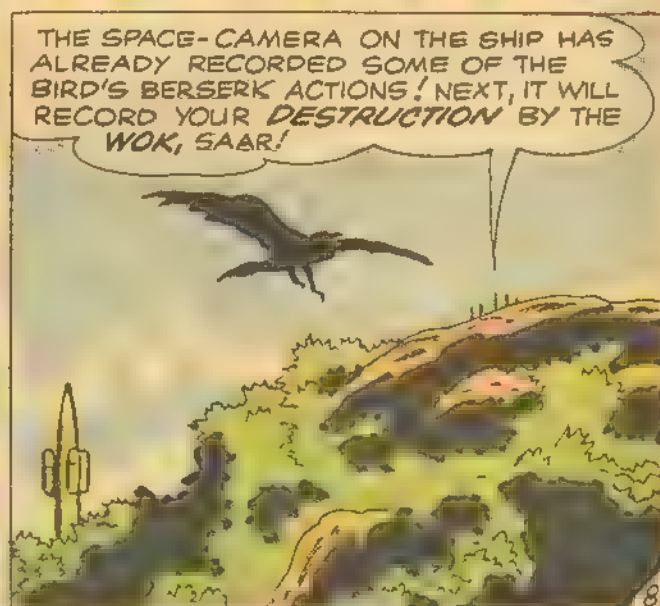
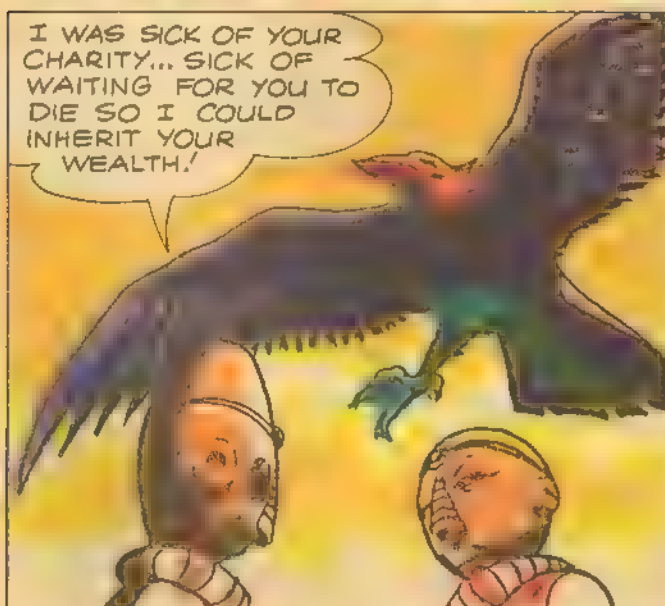
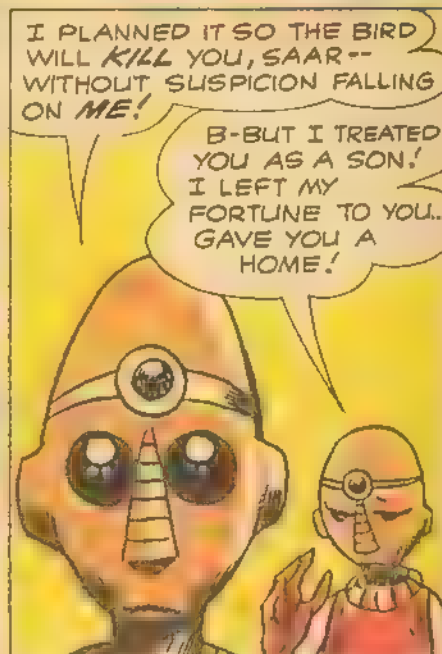
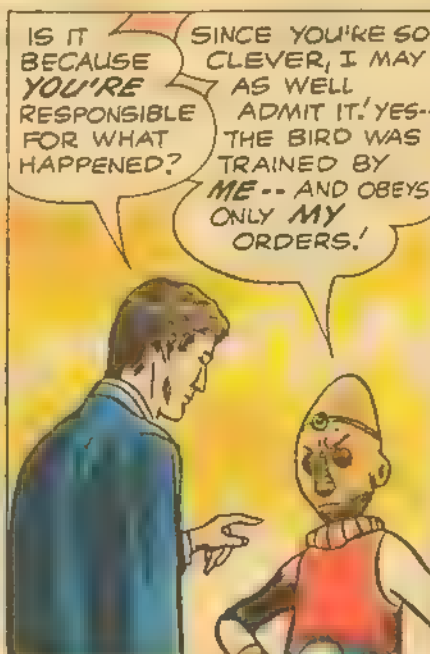
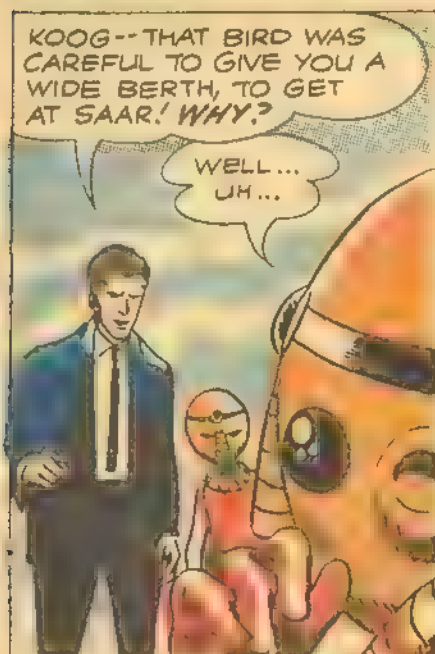
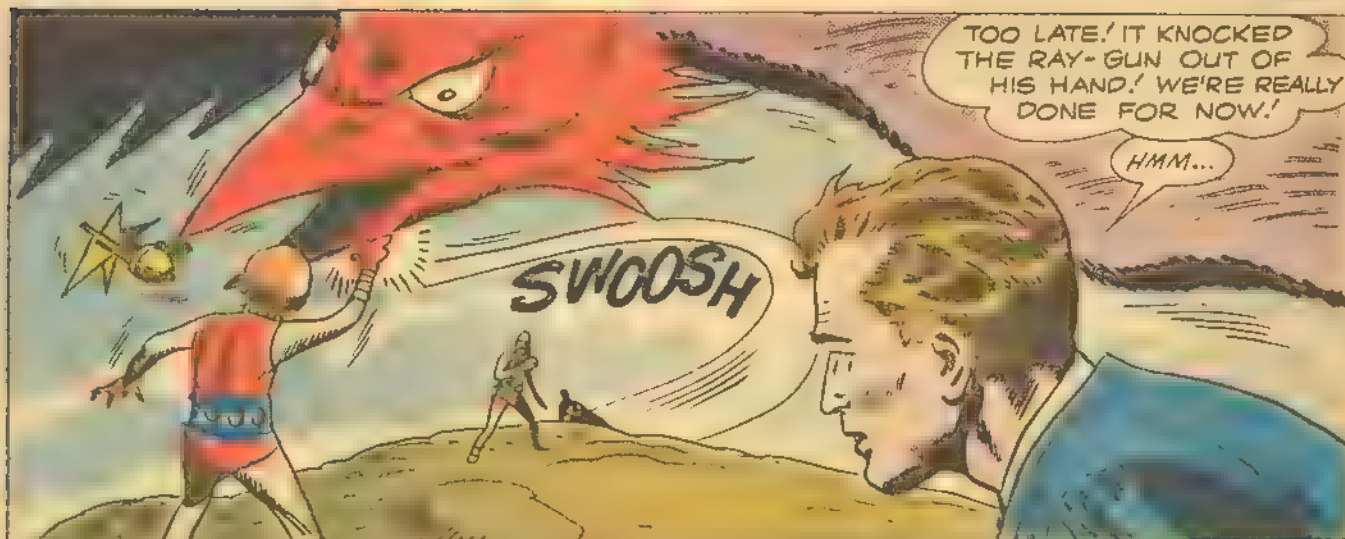


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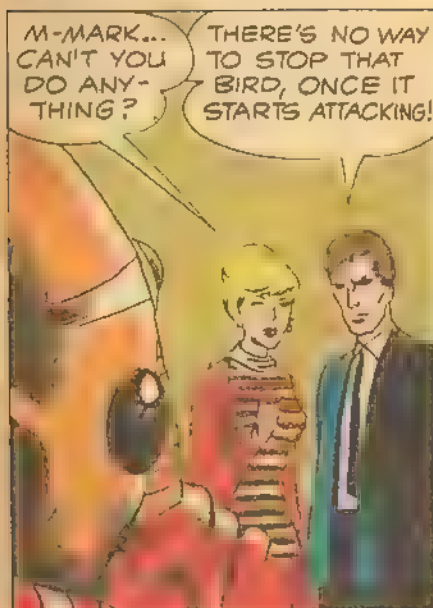


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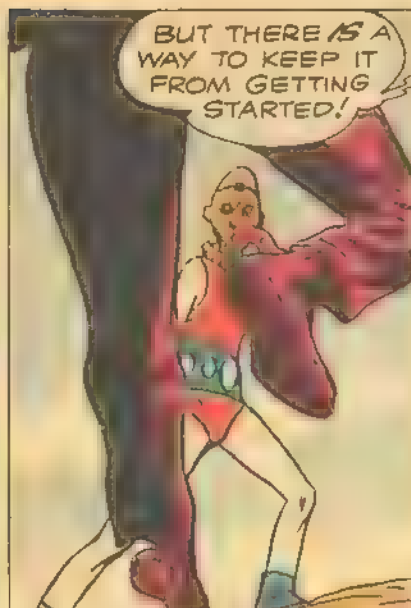


HOUSE OF SECRETS



M-MARK...
CAN'T YOU
DO ANY-
THING?

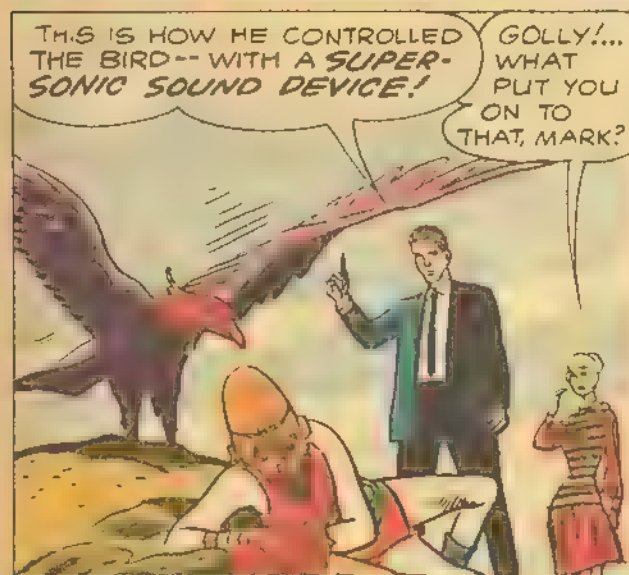
THERE'S NO WAY
TO STOP THAT
BIRD, ONCE IT
STARTS ATTACKING!



BUT THERE *IS* A
WAY TO KEEP IT
FROM GETTING
STARTED!

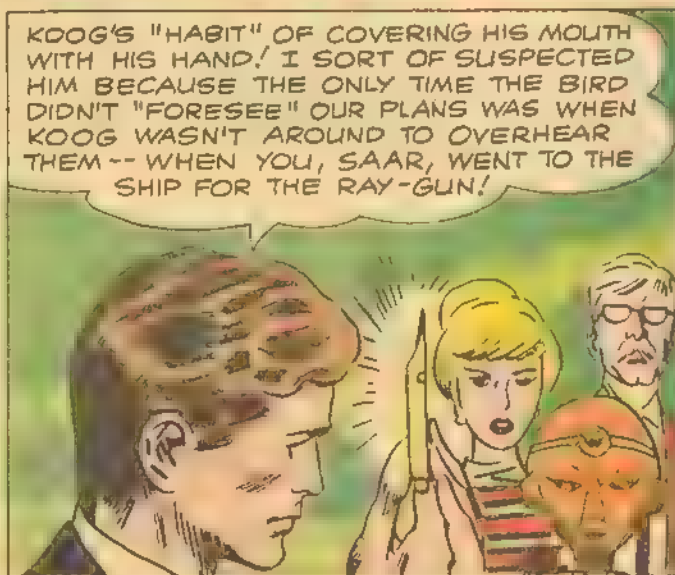


I'LL TAKE
THAT WHISTLE,
KOOG!

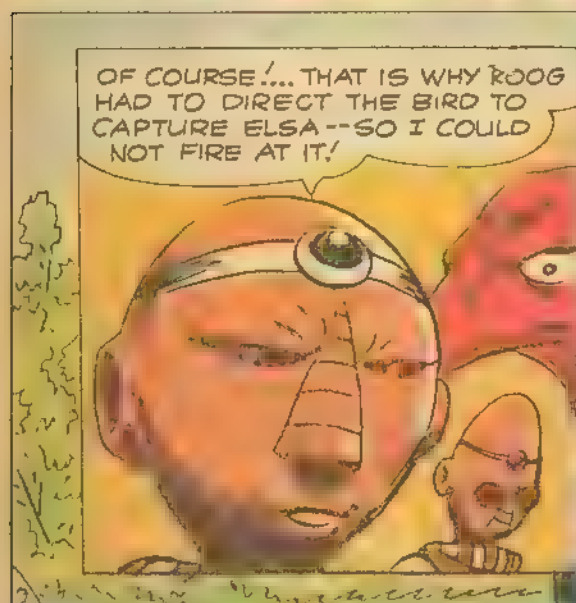


THIS IS HOW HE CONTROLLED
THE BIRD-- WITH A **SUPER-
SONIC SOUND DEVICE!**

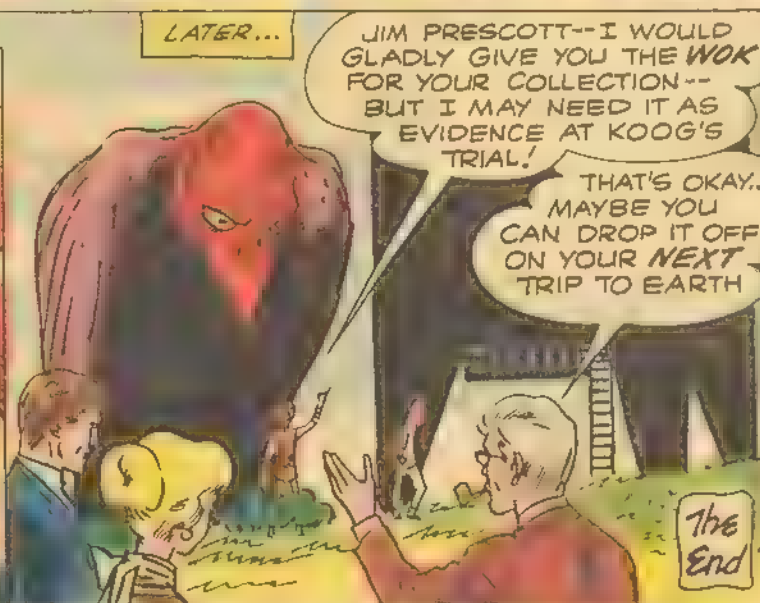
GOLLY!...
WHAT
PUT YOU
ON TO
THAT, MARK?



KOOG'S "HABIT" OF COVERING HIS MOUTH
WITH HIS HAND! I SORT OF SUSPECTED
HIM BECAUSE THE ONLY TIME THE BIRD
DIDN'T "FORESEE" OUR PLANS WAS WHEN
KOOG WASN'T AROUND TO OVERHEAR
THEM-- WHEN YOU, SAAR, WENT TO THE
SHIP FOR THE RAY-GUN!



OF COURSE!... THAT IS WHY KOOG
HAD TO DIRECT THE BIRD TO
CAPTURE ELSA--SO I COULD
NOT FIRE AT IT!



LATER...

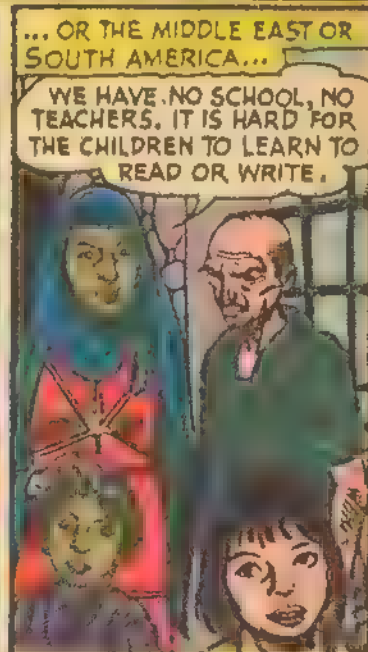
JIM PRESCOTT--I WOULD
GLADLY GIVE YOU THE WOK
FOR YOUR COLLECTION--
BUT I MAY NEED IT AS
EVIDENCE AT KOOG'S
TRIAL!

THAT'S OKAY...
MAYBE YOU
CAN DROP IT OFF
ON YOUR *NEXT*
TRIP TO EARTH

The
End

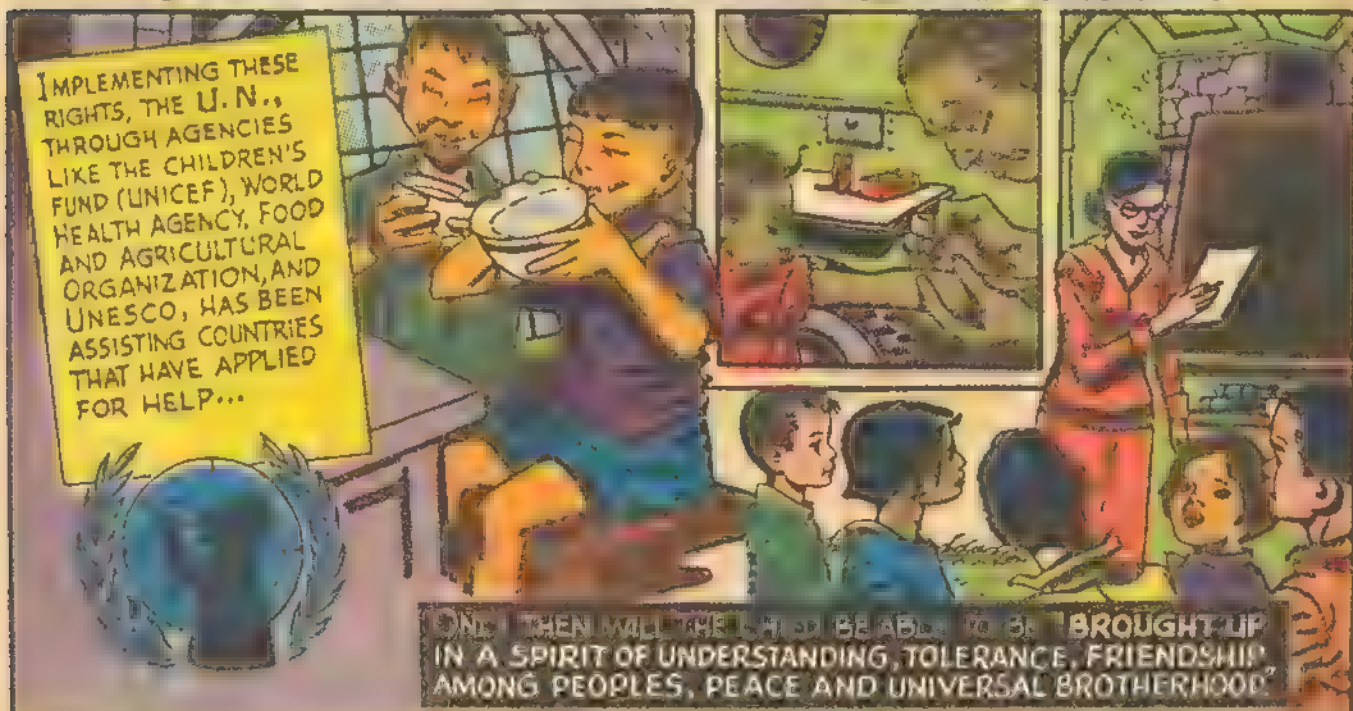
CHILDREN of TOMORROW!

CELEBRATING UNITED NATIONS DAY, OCTOBER 24th



AWARE OF THESE SUB-STANDARD CONDITIONS, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADOPTED THE **DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF A CHILD**, WHICH STATES, AMONG OTHER PRINCIPLES, THAT...

"THE CHILD SHALL ENJOY SPECIAL PROTECTION, AND SHALL BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITIES AND FACILITIES, BY LAW AND BY OTHER MEANS, TO ENABLE HIM TO DEVELOP PHYSICALLY, MENTALLY, MORALLY, SPIRITUALLY AND SOCIALLY IN A HEALTHY AND NORMAL MANNER AND IN CONDITIONS OF FREEDOM AND DIGNITY."



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Amazing new 32-Page Book shows the secrets and tricks to tear a telephone book, or deck of cards, hammer a nail with bare hands, lift a man overhead with one hand, support tremendous weights, etc.

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A complete self-instruction course and reference book — with over 1000 how-to-do-it sketches and drawings!

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FREE with every order The MANIKIN Book. Contains outline-figures of the human body in many different positions for you to trace or fill in!

LEARN TO DANCE

What happens to you when everyone starts to dance? Do you join the fun... or do you sit and watch alone? There's nothing difficult about learning to dance. This book is a complete guide for self-instruction in all the popular dances. It is so simple and clear that you start to dance with the very first lesson, the very first day. It contains step-by-step instructions with illustrations and diagrams for the basic steps — and variations of today's most popular dances — CHA-CHA-CHA, RUMBA, SAMBA, CONGA, TANGO, FOX-TROT, WALTZ, LINDY HOP and ROCK 'n ROLL! You, too, can have the pleasure, the popularity, the new friends when you learn to dance.



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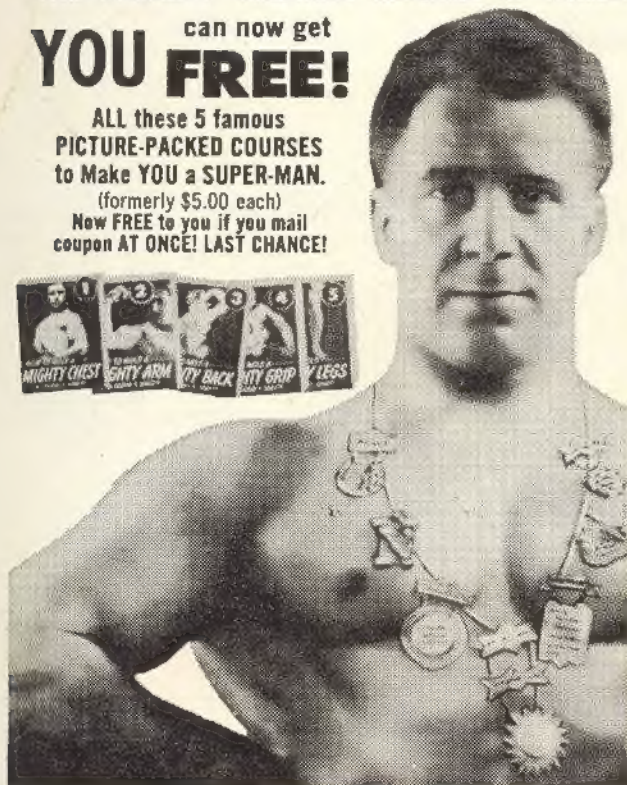
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YOU FREE!

ALL these 5 famous
PICTURE-PACKED COURSES
to Make YOU a SUPER-MAN.
(formerly \$5.00 each)
Now FREE to you if you mail
coupon AT ONCE! LAST CHANCE!



"NO MATTER WHAT YOUR AGE
I'll show you, by my quick, easy SECRETS

How to GAIN OR LOSE UP TO 50 LBS. FAST

like my pupils here did and THOUSANDS do now."

17
YEAR
OLD
SILLS



"I GAINED
60 LBS.
OF SHAPELY
MIGHTY
MUSCLES.

BEFORE

mailing
coupon,
I was a
125 lb.
6 ft.
skinny
weakling.

says JOHN SILL.

"I LOST
30 LBS.
OF
DANGEROUS
UGLY
FAT

4 INCHES
OFF MY

WAIST!

"That 220 lb. FAT-BOY at
the right was ME a few
short weeks ago."

28 year old
Felipe
Mendoza



JOWETT streamlined my
body, made me a new man
my 47" chest
my 32" waist
15" difference
attracts admiration at the beach.

**A WINNING CHAMPION
and SPORTSMAN.**

"I am just
41 years YOUNG now,

I LOST
POUNDS OF
FAT FAST.
Everyone,
regardless
of age,
should
send
for your
courses.
Soon
they'll
be as proud
as I am."

Paul
Langa



45 year old FATHER and 18 year
old SON — now Pals — train
JOWETT way together!



"Both gained pounds of powerful
muscles. Advise all you fathers and
sons to send for the Jowett courses
without foolish delay."

—LARRY CAMPBELL

JOWETT INSTITUTE, Dept. NC-012 220 Fifth Ave., New York 1, N.Y.

**SKINNY OR FAT, 15, 20, 30 OR 40 YEARS
OF AGE
I'LL BUILD YOU INTO A NEW
ATHLETIC MIGHTY-MUSCLED**

ALL-MALE HE-MAN

in 10 THRILLING MINUTES a day, as I have done to MILLIONS in 35 YEARS."

**GEORGE
JOWETT**

4 TIMES WINNER
WORLD'S STRONG
EST and MOST PER-
FECTLY DEVELOPED
MAN title, wearing
CHAMPIONSHIP
MEDALS, and MED-
ALS honoring him as
"WORLD'S BEST Body
Builder"

This now **MAGNIFICENT,
MODERN HERCULES,**
26 year old teacher,
William Butler,



How would **YOU** like
to have 18½ inch ARMS
a 52 inch CHEST like this
Jowett pupil NOW has?

says to YOU, "No matter WHAT your age, I advise you, SEND for the
JOWETT WONDER PICTURE COURSES at once.

Under the World's GREATEST BODY-BUILDER, George Jowett, I
now have 18½" ARMS, a 52" CHEST my STRENGTH has greatly im-
proved. So have my sports. I have won titles like 'Mr. Virginia',
'Mr. State Y.M.C.A.', etc."

**YOU can soon be a HERO of MEN like Butler is
and an IDOL of WOMEN in a few weeks!**

Yes! In just 10 THRILLING MINUTES a day, in the
SECURITY OF YOUR OWN ROOM at home, MY RAPID-
FIRE, EASY as ABC FAMOUS PICTURE METHODS
will start building you THE VERY FIRST NIGHT. I'll
show you How to Mold 16 INCH ARMS of MIGHT,
a big, deep 45 INCH CHEST housing TIRELESS
LUNGS, WIDE MANLY SHOULDERS — a BROAD
BRAUNY BACK, tapering to a SLENDER WAIST with
punch-proof STOMACH MUSCLES, LEGS of RUN-
NING POWER.

**WOMEN always say, "I just adore
JOWETT ALL-MALE HE-MEN".**

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are
now. If you're in your teens, twenties, thirties or
forties, I'll show you in just 10 thrilling minutes
in your home, how you can make yourself over by
the easy, quick method I turned myself from
wreck to WORLD CHAMPION and turned MILLIONS
of others into all-male he-men!

YES! You'll ADD INCHES of MIGHTY MUSCLES to
your ARMS, deepen your CHEST, broaden your
BACK and SHOULDERS. From HEAD to HEELS
you'll gain SIZE, POWER, LIGHTNING SPEED
ENDURANCE. You'll become a SUCCESSFUL HE-
MAN in LOOKS and ACTS — a WINNER in EVERY-
THING — athletics, business, studies.



"I'm
proud
of you
now,
Tony!"

Pascarella

BEFORE

mailing
coupon
this
JOWETT
pupil was
this
90 lb.
skeleton.
Gained
70 lbs.
Made
football
team.

You wouldn't
give me
a tumble
before
I gained
28 JOWETT
lbs.

JOWETT INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL TRAINING, Dept. NC-012
220 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, N.Y.

Dear George: Mail me FREE all 6 HE-MAN Building Picture Courses.
Include PHOTO BOOK of FAMOUS STRONG MEN.

☐ I enclose 10c for mailing and handling.

I am under no other obligation.

I'm checking everything I need to give me the kind of body I want.

☐ I want to gain _____ lbs. (fill in). ☐ Triple my strength.

☐ I want to streamline my body, get rid of flabby fat.

☐ I want to add inches of muscle to my ☐ ARMS ☐ CHEST

☐ SHOULDERS ☐ POWERFUL LEGS ☐ SLIM WAIST

☐ I want to become a winning athlete. ☐ I want new pep.

NAME _____ AGE _____

(please print or write plainly)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

FREE

\$80 worth
of Sports,
Self-
defense,
Strong-man
Stunts
Courses
Apparatus.
Let me
know how
to get these
FREE!

BOYS! GIRLS! LADIES! MEN!



WIN

A BEAUTIFUL
SIGNET RING

ENGRAVED WITH YOUR OWN INITIAL

IT'S FUN! IT'S EASY!

★ All you do is... ★

NAME THESE FAMOUS U. S. PRESIDENTS



DON'T
WAIT!
MAIL
COUPON
NOW!

BE FIRST
WIN YOUR
VERY OWN
SIGNET
RING

Just Get All 4 Right... We'll Send Your

GENUINE NICKEL SILVER SIGNET RING **ABSOLUTELY FREE!**

(A really terrific ring — made up with your own initial)

Also we'll mail BIG CATALOG showing many things you can get: Bikes, Dolls, Guns, Watches, etc. You'll be tickled pink and proud as a peacock to wear this strikingly beautiful ring. Wait till you see it! And it's so easy to win. Simply check on coupon the correct names of the 4 famous American Presidents shown in the pictures above and mail to us. If you name all 4 Presidents correctly, we will send you ABSOLUTELY FREE your OWN PERSONAL SIGNET RING — made up with your own

initial (you may have your choice of first letter of either first or last name.) Also, we will send you big FREE CATALOG of wonderful PREMIUMS — Bikes, Wrist Watches, Guns, Dolls, Cameras and dozens of others — and tell you how to get them! Simply offer White CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE, easily sold to friends, relatives and neighbors, at 50c a package, and choose your PREMIUM or CASH COMMISSION. But right now, name correctly the Presidents shown above and get your BEAUTIFUL SIGNET RING—ABSOLUTELY FREE! Rush coupon today!

HURRY! HURRY! CHECK YOUR ANSWERS ON THE COUPON...

Then mail coupon to win your
BEAUTIFUL SIGNET RING

Win genuine nickel silver SIGNET RING — ABSOLUTELY FREE! Just name correctly the 4 famous American Presidents pictured above. Check names on coupon—fill in rest of coupon and mail to us. IT'S EASY TO WIN—ACT NOW!

WILSON CHEMICAL CO.
DEPT. 115-2, TYRONE, PA.

**MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY!
WIN A BEAUTIFUL SIGNET RING!**

Wilson Chemical Co., Dept. 115-2, Tyrone, Pa.

Famous American Presidents shown in pictures are (check 4 only)

☐ George Washington ☐ Theodore Roosevelt ☐ Thomas Jefferson
☐ Abraham Lincoln ☐ Ulysses Grant ☐ James Madison

If I am a winner, rush my GENUINE NICKEL SILVER SIGNET RING and 14 packages of White CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE to sell at 50c a package. I will remit amount asked within 30 days, select a PREMIUM or keep CASH COMMISSION as explained under Premium in Catalog sent with order, postage paid to start.

NAME _____ AGE _____

STREET _____ RD. _____ BOX _____

TOWN _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

I want my Ring with this initial _____

PRINT LAST
NAME HERE

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Paste coupon on post card or mail in envelope today!